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22 April 1981

NEAR EAST/NORTH AFRICA REPORT

No. 2314

CONTENTS

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

PNC Official Views U.S., Soviet, European Mideast Postures (AL-SIYASAH, 4 Apr 81).....	1
Palestinian Leader Urges Israeli Negotiations With PLO (AL-HAWADITH, 3 Apr 81).....	4
Briefs	
UAE, Kuwait Try To Resolve Rift	8
Iraqi-Jordanian Ministers Confer	8
Moroccan Losses in Guelta Zemmour	8
PLO Appoints New Official in Jordan	8
PNC Receives RCP Delegation	9

AFGHANISTAN

Briefs	
Rebels' Victory Over Russians	10

ALGERIA

Algiers Communique on FLN-French Socialist Party Talks (EL MOUDJAHID), 31 Mar 81).....	11
---	----

EGYPT

Anis Mansur Says al-Qadhafi Seeks Ties With Egypt (MENA, 4 Apr 81).....	13
War Production Minister Cited on Arms Industry (MENA, 6 Apr 81).....	15

IRAN

Swindle in Arms' Purchase Reported (Radio Iran, 11 Apr 81, Free Voice of Iran, 11 Apr 81).....	17
'Radio Iran' Report	
Clandestine Iranian Radio Report	

Student Expresses Solidarity With Bakhtiar (Radio Iran, 11 Apr 81).....	20
--	----

Briefs

Qotbzadeh Forming New Party	21
Imports via USSR Increase	21
Aviation, Weather Bureau Merged	21
Agriculture Minister Sees Australian Envoy	21
Romanian Ambassador Meets	22
Israeli-Iranian Arms Deal Alleged	22

IRAQ

Tehran Explosion Said To Mark Rise Against Khomeyni (Baghdad Radio, 7 Apr 81).....	23
---	----

Anti-Syrian Radio Broadcasts Call for Broad Front Against Regime (Voice of Arab Syria, 7 Apr 81).....	25
--	----

Briefs

Moscow Friendship Societies Congress	26
Ramadan Meets French Minister	26
Ba'th Official Leaves for Czechoslovakia	26
Iraqi-Soviet Gas Industry Subcommittee Meets	27
Cooperation Protocol With Norway	27
Tehran Publishing House Stormed	27
Hammadi Confers With Indian Counterpart	27
Embassy Staffer Killed in Beirut	28
Military Procurement From Turkey	28

JORDAN

Commentary Says Syrian Aid to Iran Was To Be Expected (Amman Domestic Service, 5 Apr 81).....	29
--	----

Briefs

Mideast Urged To Solve Own Problems	31
-------------------------------------	----

LEBANON

Lebanese Front Urges World Action on Situation (Voice of Lebanon, 8 Apr 81).....	32
---	----

Christian Leader Cited on Current Hostilities (Lucien George; LE MONDE, 7 Apr 81).....	33
---	----

Briefs

ADF's Statement on 'Suspicious' Envelopes	35
Israelis' Capture Near Zahlah	35
Syria Bans Patriarch's Return	35

MAURITANIA

Foreign Minister on Abortive Coup, Moroccan Policy (Mohamed el Mokhtar Ould Zamel Interview; EL MOUDJAHID, 7 Apr 81).....	36
---	----

Briefs

U.S. Aid to Morocco Condemned	41
Beginning of Return to Normality	41

MOROCCO

Phosphate Exports to USSR To Be Increased (LE MATIN, 3 Apr 81).....	42
--	----

QATAR

Briefs

Threat to Japan's Oil Supplies Denied	43
---------------------------------------	----

SAUDI ARABIA

Study Examines 1973-79 Developments in Energy Crisis (Khalid Bashawayyah; 'UKAZ, 31 Jan 81).....	44
Prince Fahd's Role in Engineering Saudi Policy Underlined (Khalid Muhammad Lashawayyah; 'UKAZ, 29 Jan 81).....	62
Personality, Concepts of Prince Maqrin ibn 'Abd-al-'Aziz Depicted (Nasir al-Shahri; 'UKAZ, 31 Jan 81).....	72

SYRIA

South Lebanese Delegation Visits Damascus (Damascus Domestic Television Service, 9 Apr 81, Damascus Domestic Service, 10 Apr 81).....	77
---	----

al-Asad, Khaddam Receive Delegation
Chief Delegate Issues Statement

Syrian-British Parliamentary Talks Held in Damascus (Damascus Domestic Service, 8 Apr 81, SANA, 9 Apr 81).....	78
---	----

Hadid Explains Syrian Position
Parliamentary Cooperation Discussed

Briefs

President Cables CPCZ General Secretary	80
President Cables Bulgaria's Zhivkov	80
Plans To Blow Up Amman Radio	81
Syrian-Libyan Information Meeting	81
Yugoslav Parliamentarian Arrives on Visit	81

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Economy Continues General Upswing in 1980 (KHALEEF TIMES, 10 Apr 81).....	82
Cabinet Approves 24 Billion Dirhams for 81 Federal Budget (Dubayy Domestic Service, 13 Apr 81).....	84
Abu Dhabi Consultative Council Approves 1981 Budget (KHALEEF TIMES, 14 Apr 81).....	85
'AL-KHALIJ' on British Arms Deals With Gulf States (Editorial; AL-KHALIJ, 11 Apr 81).....	86
Work Begins on Oil Project on Delma Island (Abu Dhabi Domestic Service, 2 Apr 81).....	88
Briefs	
Finance Company Regulations	89
Thief Given Death Sentence	89
Population Figures	90
Japan, UAE Joint Statement	90
President Briefed on Lebanon Events	90
New OAPEC Company Established	91
Oil Revenues	91

YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

Yemeni Citizen's Aspirations, Problems Discussed (Fathi Sharif; AL-SIYASAH, 13 Jan 81).....	92
--	----

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

PNC OFFICIAL VIEWS U.S., SOVIET, EUROPEAN MIDEAST POSTURES

LD081033 Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 4 Apr 81 p 19

[Interview given to Fathi Sharif by Fatah Central Committee member and chairman of Palestine National Council Foreign Affairs Committee Khalid al-Hasan--date and place not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] What repercussions do you think the escalating cold war between East and West has on the Palestinian cause. Does this conflict allow you freedom to act and deal with the various forces in the interest of this cause?

[Answer] As far as we are concerned, the American side initiated the cold war as a deliberate tactic to make the Soviets conclude a new Yalta agreement on all sources of problems to the two camps. The United States does not wish to agree to a summit with the Soviets until the target has been defined. The American target is to conclude a package deal--that is, a solution of all international problems in a single deal--in the sense that it does not want the Afghan problem to be resolved separately from the problems of Palestine, Ethiopia, Cuba and others.

[Question] The American administration's insinuations indicate that attempts are being made to dissociate the oil issue from the Palestinian issue. What is the reality of this trend?

[Answer] In fact, there are two trends within President Reagan's Administration regarding this point. One trend is concentrating on oil and on separating it from the Palestinian issue, while the other trend is not in favor of this separation. These views stem from the question of America's primary concern: Is it Israel's security or oil security? Does oil security provide a solution to the problem of the Middle East and the Palestinian people, especially now that the Arabs have adopted an interim solution and not a final solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict? And is the United States to begin by resolving the Palestinian issue or leave it till last?

In my estimation, the United States will plump or rather, has actually plumped--for Israel's security, through which it can achieve oil security, the reason being that, as far as the United States is concerned and according to Reagan, Israel's security is among the U.S. priorities. Politically and militarily, this attitude stems from the fact that Israel represents an American military base which can

mobilize up to 450,000 soldiers, who cost America about \$5 billion annually. This is far less than it would cost America if it had to establish an American force of 450,000 men. Thus Israel is part of the NATO strategy to confront the Soviets on the one hand and [words unintelligible] change in the Middle East on the other, including oil security, as the American saying goes. On this basis, the U.S. choice of the Arabs or Israel as its priority depends on the Arab stand because the United States will not change its policy unless it is compelled to do so. Therefore it is important that the Arabs unite their stand by adhering to the Tunis and Amman summits' economic resolutions and the Baghdad and al-Ta'if summits' political resolutions. Had the Arab stand been as vital, as strong and as united as it ought to be, the Palestinian issue would have been the top, not the bottom priority for the big powers.

[Question] Do you believe that the Soviets might conclude a political deal with the United States that would destroy the Palestinian cause?

[Answer] The Soviet Union naturally leads the camp which opposes the Western industrial camp, led by the United States. If only for the sake of pan-Arab interests and a strengthened Arab stand vis-a-vis the Zionist-American intransigence, we Arabs must take advantage of the Soviet Union's friendship in bolstering and supporting the Palestinian cause. We should also continue our dialog with the Soviet Union so that it would have a clear picture of our stand in the conflict with the Zionist enemy if it signed a new Yalta agreement with the United States. If the Arab situation remains as it is, the Soviet Union's ability to help us will be limited, no matter how much it may desire to do so. The Arabs now have a chance to try to have the Soviet Union and Europe make a joint initiative in which the Arabs would have a basic role.

[Question] How do you view the Soviet president's initiative on convening an international conference to resolve the Middle East problem?

[Answer] The initiative was couched in very general terms needing much explanation. We are still waiting for this explanation.

[Question] As you are aware, it is difficult for the Western European states to formulate an initiative on solving the Middle East issue without it being subjected to American pressures.

[Answer] In that case Europe should stop making such efforts when they are linked one way or another with an American plan seeking to link the Palestinian issue to Israel's security and Camp David.

[Question] How do you view the Reagan Administration's new moves regarding the issue? Do you think that the American secretary of state's statements about the possibility of making some changes to the Camp David agreement represent a development in the American stand?

[Answer] The United States is trying to make some changes to the Camp David agreement, but these do not affect the substance of the agreement. I believe that the United States is trying to introduce formal amendments to the agreement so as to

induce some Arab states to enter into negotiations on those amendments. We warn against these American attempts and call for a united Arab stand that would impose on the United States the Arab Palestinian option, which allows for the establishment of a Palestinian state and for self-determination for the Palestinian people. We would also say that unless there is a fundamental change in the American stand consistent with the Arab summit resolutions, all this would be a waste of time, a political delusion and indeed an attempt to fragment the Arab stand.

CSO: 4802

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

PALESTINIAN LEADER URGES ISRAELI NEGOTIATIONS WITH PLO

LDO70657 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 3 Apr 81 pp 22-24

[Interview granted by former governor of Jerusalem Anwar Nusaybah to 'Adnan Nasrawin in Paris--date not given]

[Excerpts] Anwar Nusaybah is one of the leading Palestinian personalities in the occupied Arab territories, occupied several ministerial posts in Jordan from 1948 to 1967 and was governor of Jerusalem. Today he is a Palestinian voice inside the occupied territories.

AL-HAWADITH: Egyptian President Anwar al-Sadat recently suggested the establishment of a Palestinian government in exile. What do you think of this proposal and are you prepared to participate in such a government?

Anwar Nusaybah: I am one of those who follow the decision taken by the PLO in its capacity as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and which alone has a right to accept the establishment of a Palestinian government in exile. Nobody can dictate decisions to it and we all know the PLO's view on this subject.

I personally am against the establishment of a Palestinian government in exile for the simple reason that so far Israel has not recognized the Palestinian people's right to a home in Palestine. Incidentally, I was a member of a Palestinian government in exile in 1948 whose headquarters was in Gaza and later moved to Cairo. At that time we had a land which we could say that we represented and on which we existed, but at present the whole of Palestine is occupied and it is premature to talk about the possibility of establishing a Palestinian state before Israel in one way or another fully recognizes Palestinian rights on Palestinian soil.

AL-HAWADITH: Recently President al-Sadat strongly attacked Yasir 'Arafat saying that he is not qualified to be the PLO leader. What do you think is the motive that prompted President al-Sadat to launch an attack on Yasir 'Arafat at this time in particular?

Anwar Nusaybah: I honestly do not know how to answer you because such a question should be put to President al-Sadat himself. (After a short pause Nusaybah continued) Maybe al-Sadat did not expect such opposition from the PLO to his peace initiative with Israel. When he felt the strength of this opposition by the PLO he wanted to attack its leaders and accuse them of working against the Palestinian

people's interests by pursuing a policy opposed to Camp David and autonomy. But I would like to affirm here that the opposition to the Camp David accords comes not from just one faction but from all the Palestinian people's factions both inside and outside the occupied territories. Of course, the PLO symbolizes this rejectionist Palestinian stand and Yasir 'Arafat is the leader of this policy. Hence the recent al-Sadat attack on him.

AL-HAWADITH: You, the inhabitants of the occupied territories how do you evaluate the local administration plan in the occupied territories?

Anwar Nusaybah: Ever since the local administration plan was put forward and since the Egyptian-Israeli negotiations on it began I have said that it can only fail. This is because I live in the occupied Arab territories and I know well what the Israelis are planning in those territories and what their views on the proposed local administration plans are. Before talking about any peace plan the parties concerned with this peace must have a clear image of it and must agree on peace within the framework of international custom and law. What has happened with regard to the local administration plan is that we have put the cart before the horse. Local administration in its present form is rejected and we will reject it regardless of in what form it may be presented.

Speaking with anger and bitterness, Anwar Nusaybah continued: My dear sir, we believe that we are a people who have a right and have a sovereignty on our territories. A master does not accept to be less than a master and does not accept to be ruled. Occupation is something known in international law. It is true that the Israelis occupied the Arab territories by military force but this does not give them the right to impose their sovereignty on the land and its owners. We are a sovereign people and do not accept the proposed autonomy rule.

AL-HAWADITH: In refusing the local administration plan how do you visualize a suitable solution for the Palestine problem?

Anwar Nusaybah: We demand total Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories. I cannot imagine any other solution that is not based on this fundamental principle.

If we want to look at the UN resolutions in this regard, particularly resolution 242, there is no ambiguity in the demand for Israel to withdraw from the occupied Arab territories in any peaceful settlement for the crisis in the area. My personal belief is that resolution 338 which came after the 1973 war harmed resolution 242 by referring to the question of negotiations whereas resolution 242 stresses the need for Israeli withdrawal as the sole and basic condition for a peaceful settlement in the Middle East in return for ending the state of war between the Arab states and Israel. It did not refer to total peace because total peace involves other considerations.

AL-HAWADITH: How do you view the nature of future relations between the Palestinian state and Jordan?

Anwar Nusaybah: This is something that the Palestinians themselves will decide and nobody can impose a particular viewpoint on them in this regard before the time

comes to determine the nature of Palestinian-Jordanian relations. But what I can say at present is that I believe in Arab unity not only between Palestinians and Jordanians but also throughout the Arab world. I do not represent all the Palestinian factions. The Palestinians must give their view on this matter through a public referendum after the occupation is removed and a Palestinian state established.

AL-HAWADITH: There are some who claim that the PLO is dictating its views to the Palestinians in the occupied territories. Is the PLO's role generally accepted in the occupied territories?

Anwar Nusaybah: My personal impression is that there is a consensus in the occupied Arab territories that it is the PLO that represents the Palestinian people with all their factions. I have not been aware of any initiative or attempt by the PLO to dictate its views to anybody. Rather there is a strong and spontaneous cohesion between the PLO and the Palestinian Arab people inside the country and everybody is marching behind the PLO to restore the legitimate Palestinian rights.

AL-HAWADITH: Do you believe that if the Israeli Labor Party takes over there will be a change in the hardline policy which Begin is pursuing?

Anwar Nusaybah: There might be differences of method between one Israeli party and another but there is no difference in essence between the Israeli parties, especially with regard to the Palestinian people's rights and the need for withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories. Just like the Likud, the Labor Party is a Zionist party and the Zionist principles are well-known to everybody. There is no difference of ideology between the two parties.

AL-HAWADITH: What do you think of the new U.S. Administration attitude to the Palestine problem and the Middle East and are you optimistic about the new U.S. Administration?

Anwar Nusaybah: It is difficult to answer your question because as far as I know no particular policy on the Middle East has crystallized in the new U.S. Administration. All there is are some statements by U.S. circles speaking about the "Jordanian option." On every occasion Jordan has stressed its adherence to the Rabat summit resolution that considers the PLO the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people responsible to speak on their behalf. Therefore I do not understand the meaning of the U.S. stand that talks about the "Jordanian option" at a time when Jordan rejects such a line and so does the PLO.

But what I would like to tell the new U.S. Administration is that when we the Palestinians in the occupied Arab territories say that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people we mean what we say not only in words but also in deeds and in fact. It is inconceivable within the framework of such a commitment that there would be anybody inside or outside the occupied territories who would tolerate opposition to the PLO's representation of us.

AL-HAWADITH: How do you evaluate the international efforts to achieve a just peace in the Middle East?

Anwar Nusaybah: Israel always gives the excuse of what it calls security considerations. The Israeli leaders claim that they want to make sure that those who are going to rule the Arab areas in Palestine are people with whom they can coexist and who do not intend to throw the Israeli inhabitants into the sea. Such talk is out of the question and is no longer valid today. If there is any need to discuss these matters seriously they must be discussed with the Palestinians themselves represented by the PLO. It should not come through international quarters outside the area, nor should these quarters propose solutions to which the Palestinians are not party because they will be invalid. We are a people with a right and we must directly establish our rights and national aspirations.

AL-HAWADITH: Therefore, you are calling for the need to hold direct negotiations between Israel and the PLO.

Anwar Nusaybah: If we want to achieve any progress in the peace efforts in the area I believe that it is necessary for Israel to recognize the PLO as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and recognize the Palestinian people's rights. It is only on this basis that negotiations for the achievement of a just and comprehensive peace in the area can be held.

CSO: 4802

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

UAE, KUWAIT TRY TO RESOLVE RIFT--The UAE and Kuwait will embark on a good will mission in an attempt to resolve the existing differences between Oman and the Democratic Republic of (South) Yemen, it was announced in Abu Dhabi yesterday. The UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, Mr Rashid 'Abdullah, and Kuwait deputy premier and foreign minister, Shaikh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah, will leave for Aden today. Later, they will visit Muscat. In a statement to WAM, Mr 'Abdullah said the visits come in the purview of current efforts to put an end to differences among Arab world. The two ministers will discuss during their visits to the two capitals the Arab issues, relations among various states and means of solving the inter-Arab differences. [Text] [GF131135 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 13 Apr 81 p 1]

IRAQI-JORDANIAN MINISTERS CONFER--Baghdad, 1 Apr (INA)--Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister, received here this morning Walid 'Asfur, Jordanian industry and trade minister, and his delegation. The two sides discussed the spheres of developed cooperation between the two fraternal countries for the benefit of joint Arab action. Taha Yasin Ramadan stressed the importance of dialogue between Iraq and Jordan for the sake of developing their economic and industrial relations and establishing joint industries in the two fraternal countries. Walid 'Asfur expressed satisfaction with the facilities offered by Iraq to establish an exhibition of Jordanian products, stressing that this is an expression of the depth of fraternal ties between the two countries. [Text] [JN111344 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1330 GMT 11 Apr 81]

MOROCCAN LOSSES IN GUELTA ZEMMOUR--There has been fighting around Guelta Zemmour for several days. The Moroccan Army was forced to withdraw to various localities in the area after severe losses of men and equipment this week. A communique from the Saharan Information Ministry points out that Moroccan reinforcements sent to Guelta Zemmour on 4 April, lost 91 men and 20 vehicles there. A Mirage F-1 registration number K506 was shot down by Saharan forces and the pilot killed. [Summary] [LD071500 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 7 Apr 81]

PLO APPOINTS NEW OFFICIAL IN JORDAN--Amman--The PLO Executive Committee has decided to appoint Hamad al-'Ayidi, alias abu Ramzi, to be director of the occupied homeland affairs department in Jordan, replacing Yunis al-Kutari. Al 'Ayidi was director of the PLO's office in the PRC. [Text] [JN290807 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 29 Mar 81 p 20]

PNC RECEIVES RCP DELEGATION--Bucharest, 13 Apr (AGERPRES)--The RCP delegation that attended the proceedings of the 15th session of the Palestine National Council, was received and conducted talks with Khalid al-Wahid. On the occasion, the chairman of the Palestine National Council thanked Nicolae Ceausescu, the RCP and the Romanian people for the political, diplomatic, moral and material support granted to the Palestinian people and its struggle. [text] [AU131440 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 0905 GMT 13 Apr 81]

CSO: 4820

AFGHANISTAN

BRIEFS

REBELS' VICTORY OVER RUSSIANS--According to the central news unit, the public relations unit of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of Birjand in a contact with PARS in Mashhad stated that the intense fighting which started in the Qal'eh Kah region between the Afghan Muslim Mojahedin and the combined government and Russian forces last month is still in progress. In the course of the fighting one Russian tank was destroyed and six Afghan soldiers and one Russian soldier were killed in mine explosions caused by the Afghan Mojahedin. According to the report, in the fighting, in addition to five Russian soldiers being injured, two tanks and one truck were bogged down in mud and two Afghan soldiers surrendered themselves to the Mojahedin along with their arms. [Text] [LD061324 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 6 Apr 81]

CSO: 4906

ALGIERS COMMUNIQUE ON FLN-FRENCH SOCIALIST PARTY TALKS

LDO31025 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 31 Mar 81 p 2

[APS report: "Resolution of Problems Concerning Emigration One of Essential Conditions for New Prospects in Relations Between the Two Countries"]

[Text] Algiers--A joint communique ratifying the talks held 28-29 March by a Socialist Party (PS) delegation headed by Gaston Deferre, chairman of the Socialist Parliamentary Group in the French National Assembly and mayor of Marseilles, and a National Liberation Front (FLN) Party delegation headed by Salah Louanchi, a Central Committee member and member of the FLN Central Committee's Standing Secretariat, was published Monday in Algiers.

The joint communique, which states that "the two delegations ascertained considerable convergence between their viewpoints on many problems," emphasizes that the two sides deem it necessary to develop "Franco-Algerian cooperation in the interest of the two peoples."

"Being very anxious about the recrudescence of racism in France," the FLN-PS joint communique continues, "they believe that the resolution of the problems concerning emigration constitutes one of the essential conditions for new prospects in relations between the two countries and that the working conditions of the Algerian work force in France should be based on strict implementation of the bilateral agreements concluded between the two countries in 1968."

The two sides also protest "against the multifaceted activity aimed at the compulsory return of many Algerian workers and the arbitrary turning back of Algerian citizens at the borders of French territory."

Concerning the deterioration of the international situation, the joint communique states that the FLN and the PS "expressed their keen concern" about this deterioration and made a point of "expressing their anxiety about the dangers looming over the peoples' right to democracy," and asserted that "foreign acts of interference are threatening stability, peace and security in the world."

The two sides, which believe that the nonaligned movement constitutes "an important factor for strengthening peace and security in the world," state next, in connection with the situation prevailing in northwest Africa, that "the problem of West Sahara is a problem of decolonization." The two sides "believe that peace in

the region can be secured only by negotiations between Morocco and Polisario-- the sole legitimate representative of the Saharan people, whose right to self-determination must be respected, in accordance with UN and OAU decisions."

"The two delegations," the joint communique continues, "denounce the deliveries of arms to Morocco, which threaten to cause the present conflict to spread and to banish the prospects of peace, just as they protest against the attempts at destabilization in the region."

From this viewpoint the recent aggression to which Mauritania has been subjected enabled the FLN Party and the PS to reaffirm "their devotion to Mauritania's integrity and national sovereignty."

The joint communique also states that "the two delegations want fruitful relations to develop among the states of the Mediterranean basin and the Mediterranean to become a lake of peace." The two sides "denounce the current overarming of the region," regarding as "indissociable security in Europe and in the Mediterranean."

With respect to the North-South dialogue and the obvious setback to it, as a result "of the developed countries' selfishness," and the present relations of domination which are leading increasingly to tensions between industrialized countries and Third World countries, the FLN-PS joint communique states in conclusion that the two sides "are in favor of the rapid implementation of a new world economic order based on greater justice and fairness, as well as on the reorganization of the present monetary system."

CSS: 4400

ANIS MANSUR SAYS AL-QADHDHAFI SEEKS TIES WITH EGYPT

NC040946 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0835 GMT 4 Apr 81

[Text] Cairo, 4 Apr (MENA)--In his weekly article, which will be published by the OCTOBER MAGAZINE in its Sunday's edition, the magazine chief editor, Anis Mansur, reveals that during his visit to France, President Muhammad Anwar al-Sadat met with a special envoy of Libyan President Mu'Ammar al-Qadhdhafi and that the envoy asked for the immediate opening of the border between Egypt and Libya.

Mansur adds that the Libyan envoy, one of the closest persons to President al-Qadhdhafi, also asked President al-Sadat that Libya be permitted to buy from Egypt the scrapped Soviet planes, tanks and guns and that this be transacted in accordance with a secret written agreement. President al-Sadat rejected all the Libyan envoy's requests outright.

In his weekly article dealing with the Arab conditions and the strange dissimilarities in it, Anis Mansur adds: al-Qadhdhafi's object is to secretly restore relations with Egypt. Despite this, he denounced the stand of Sudan which has publicly restored its relations with Egypt.

Mansur says that after rejecting all the Libyan envoy's requests, President Anwar al-Sadat told him: I want to be very clear. What I want to tell you now is not new and I have said it more than once. We do not want land, petroleum or money from Libya. We have no business with the systems you follow exactly as you have no business with our system, which you declare you will seek to topple. President al-Sadat added: If this is not impudence, then it is ignorance and bad manners. Why don't you relax. We don't approve of what you do and you will not approve what we do.

Mansur goes on: We know that the Russians emphasized to President al-Qadhdhafi that Egypt is preparing to invade Libya and that he must prepare for this confrontation by making use of the Soviet weapons and the East German and Cuban mercenaries. The Russians must have also convinced him to buy their weapons which have become completely rusty in Egypt and that he will guarantee Egypt's silence or its neutrality by the large sum he will pay secretly.

Mansur adds that in his talk with the Libyan envoy, President al-Sadat added: I tell you for the 20th time, my son, that Egypt cannot be bought by money. Al-Qadhdhafi should have been convinced by this because he has tried often and failed. He must fail. He tried to bribe us with his billions at the Baghdad Conference, but we refused. Money does not make a leader of an ordinary man nor does it make a rich state a commander or a leader. There are many things which

cannot be bought by money--ethics, freedom and dignity. President al-Sadat added: How would Egypt be divested of its history and greatness, simply because it is experiencing an economic crisis which will pass. I do not want to reiterate or add to the causes of this crisis because this is our destiny. We will traverse this destiny by our will when we solve our problems, construct our land and build our future.

President al-Sadat also told al-Qadhdhafi's envoy: Go back to al-Qadhdhafi and tell him: Save your money. Advise him to read the recent history of the Egyptian-Libyan relations. He would then discover that we had previously rejected such a disgraceful offer.

The OCTOBER MAGAZINE chief editor then says: Had it not been for the fact that al-Qadhdhafi attacked Sudan, we wouldn't have published one line of this long secret meeting, which al-Qadhdhafi will deny. What has al-Qadhdhafi done? He has opened a door from which worse news will pour on him.

CSO: 4802

WAR PRODUCTION MINISTER CITED ON ARMS INDUSTRY

NC061049 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0815 GMT 6 Apr 81

[Text] Cairo, 6 Apr (MENA)--Dr Engineer Jamal al-Sayyid, minister of state for war production, has stated that the Egyptian arms factories now produce well over 90 percent of the armed forces' needs for various types of ammunition. The factories are making big strides both in achieving complete self-sufficiency and in finding new markets for export.

In a statement to the weekly magazine MAY on the future of weapon manufacture in Egypt, Minister of State for War Production Jamal al-Sayyid said that the Egyptian arms factories have also managed to achieve self-sufficiency for the armed forces in various kinds of light and medium arms such as rifles and machineguns.

Al-Sayyid said that in the near future Egypt will produce, for the first time, heavy guns of MM-100 caliber and higher for armored vehicles and field guns as well as various types of armored vehicles. In fact, the arms factories are seeking to arm the Egyptian armed forces with the most effective weapons.

Regarding cooperation with the friendly Western countries in the domain of weapon manufacturing, Minister al-Sayyid said that there is vast cooperation between Egypt and a number of friendly countries including the United States, France and Great Britain.

Minister al-Sayyid said that currently Egypt and Italy are preparing a draft cooperation protocol on armament and manufacture, which is expected to be signed in Rome this year. He further said that this protocol includes cooperation in the manufacture of electronic weapons because Italy is famous for progress in manufacturing them. In addition, the protocol includes cooperation in the manufacture of armored vehicles.

Minister al-Sayyid said: For the first time Egypt has found major areas of cooperation with Britain particularly in the industrial use of chemical ores pertinent to explosives, as well as spare parts and various types of heavy guns.

Minister al-Sayyid pointed out that the first factory to produce these guns will be operative this year.

On the manufacture in Egypt of the French aircraft (Faget), Minister al-Sayyid said that the Arab Industrialization Organization and the air force are in fact

cooperating and are finalizing plans to manufacture this plane as an advanced training aircraft that can be used in assisting ground forces. He said that Egypt began considering the manufacture of this aircraft 2 years ago. The tests, which have been made with the knowledge of the air forces, proved the need to make certain changes to the aircraft for its use in Egypt. The French side has agreed to the changes and the project is currently under way.

On areas of cooperation with the United States in this respect, Minister al-Sayyid said that there is a military cooperation protocol with the United States on war equipment and arms. The United States has no objection to cooperating in the manufacture of certain U.S. war equipment in Egypt in addition to the exchange of research results in arms industry.

Minister al-Sayyid added: Egypt and the U.S. side have concluded studies on the viability of manufacture of ammunition, arms and half tracks and work has begun in addition to the manufacture of certain sophisticated U.S. guided missiles in the Egyptian arms factories.

CSO: 4802

SWINDLE IN ARMS' PURCHASE REPORTED

'Radio Iran' Report

NC111600 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 11 Apr 81

[Text] Ahmad Heydari, one of Khomeyni's relatives who had been sent to France to purchase arms from the black market, withdrew 840 million tumans in dollars from the Paris branch of Bank Melli Iran and fled. A certain Ahmad Sarabi cooperated with Ahmad Heydari in committing this fraud.

These two are the same persons who, during talks with French middlemen over the purchase of arms 2 months ago in the George V Hotel in Paris, drew guns and shot at the Frenchmen on the issue of commission. They then fled to the Islamic Republic's Embassy. This incident was reported by Radio Iran.

Information on hand shows that Mullah Hashemi Rafsanjani was in very close contact with these two. It is said in Tehran that Ahmad Sarabi and Ahmad Heydari had been sent to Europe to purchase arms on a recommendation by Mullah Hashemi Rafsanjani. Other reports received by us indicate that part of the 840 million tumans stolen from the Iranian nation will be paid to Mullah Hashemi Rafsanjani as his share in this swindle.

While the Islamic swindlers have robbed hundreds of millions of tumans from the Iranian nation on the excuse of purchasing arms from the black market--and yet not even one bullet has been received by the Iranian soldiers--Iraq and Spain have signed an agreement under which Spain will deliver \$2 billion worth of war material to Iraq. This agreement includes a number of missile-launching ships, transport aircraft, sophisticated tanks, trucks and light arms. Iraq will use these arms in the war against our homeland and the Islamic Republic will probably send two more swindlers to purchase arms from middlemen and smugglers abroad so that they can thus once again rob the oppressed Iranian nation and flee.

Clandestine Iranian Radio Report

NC111741 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 11 Apr 81

[Text] Some time ago residents on George V Avenue in Paris saw the French police surround a house and place the area under their control for 1 and 1/2 hours in the dead of night; French radio, television and press referred to this incident at that time and said that this was in connection with the clash between an Iranian

and a group thought to be French. However, on the following day the matter was forgotten and no further mention of this clash was made either by the press or by the radio and television and the people who were involved in the incident virtually disappeared.

Some 2 weeks ago the informative French weekly (LE CANARD ENCHAINE), which publishes important topics in a satirical way, revealed this incident and wrote that (?efforts were being made to keep the incident hidden) and to keep the press from mentioning it. According to (LE CANARD ENCHAINE) a clash broke out between an Iranian, acting as a middleman for the purchase of arms by Raja'i's government and apparently known as Ahmad Heydari, with a group of foreigners during a meeting. Meanwhile, Heydari had stolen part of the Iranian Government's money. Apparently [word indistinct] have convicted him of having pocketed the commission which should have been paid and that no arms have been purchased. The French press, radio and television at that time announced that the transaction concerned the purchase of locomotives, but (LE CANARD ENCHAINE) reports that the talks concerned the purchase of tanks, armored vehicles and other war materiel.

The French newspaper LE FIGARO referred to this subject in today's issue and linked it with the (?incident). LE FIGARO wrote that legal circles are investigating a case in which the Iranian Government lost \$56 million and (?has actually been swindled). A Lebanese who apparently promised to transport the war materiel to Iran is apparently involved in the swindle. LE FIGARO noted that this is definitely linked with the George V Avenue incident and added that in this transaction involving the purchase of arms by the clergy [word indistinct], up to now large sums of money have been pocketed by (?the officials of the regime).

(Pierre Salinger), special correspondent for ABC Television in Paris, has published a report in which he revealed this swindle and the corruption which exists in Khomeyni's regime. (Pierre Salinger) wrote in his report: Ahmad Heydari, representative of Prime Minister Mohammad 'Nilwjaji of Khomeyni's regime, arrived in Paris to purchase arms and military spare parts. There he met with a Lebanese named [name indistinct], an arms' middleman who was staying at the George V Hotel, with whom he signed an agreement for the purchase of arms.

A certain (Behnam), the charge d'affaires of the Islamic Republic in Spain, was informed of this agreement. After the agreement was prepared, (Behnam) left for Paris. However, his knowledge of English was nonexistent and the agreement was signed without knowing what it stipulated. Following this \$56 million were transferred from the Paris branch of Bank Melli Iran to the Banque Mediterranee.

The shooting incident at George V Hotel in Paris took place after the agreement was signed and the French Government prevented it from being reported. [Words indistinct] was clarified that this incident was related to the arms' purchase agreement.

After this (?swindle) there was no sign of the dispatching of arms to Iran and it has now become apparent that Ahmad Heydari and [name indistinct], the Lebanese arms' middleman, have disappeared and have robbed the Iranian nation of \$56 million.

Agencies report that Raja'i's government has sent a number of lawyers to Paris in order to file a complaint in French courts regarding this fraud. The agencies add

that the fraud was (?uncovered) when it was revealed that the company which had sold the arms was nonexistent. Iran's complaint on the swindle is not expected to achieve anything since Heydari, who was Raja'i's representative, and [name indistinct] have both disappeared; and so have \$56 million.

The Tehran regime has not reported this and Khomeyni is unaware of it as well. Officials of the regime, fearing Khomeyni's (?health) have not dared to report this.

World agencies report that this unprecedented swindle has been widely reported in American and European papers and foreign correspondents are trying to find out more details on the incident and on the [word indistinct] of the officials of Khomeyni's regime.

CSO: 4906

IRAN

STUDENT EXPRESSES SOLIDARITY WITH BAKHTIAR

NC111612 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian to Iran 1330 GMT 11 Apr 81

[Report by the radio's correspondent in Paris--live or recorded]

[Text] A statement issued by the National and Independent Organization of Iranian Students Abroad, which has been circulated in Europe and America, declares the organization's solidarity with the National Resistance Movement of Iran led by Dr Shahpur Bakhtiar.

In an interview with the representative of the Paris Branch of this wide-spread organization, he spoke about how this decision was adopted and said: Since the National Resistance Movement deems the students' struggles toward the homeland's salvation from the claws of the (?usurpers) of the Iranian nation's revolution necessary, our adherence to the National Resistance Movement is a completely natural process since, in light of the progressive and democratic ideals of the movement and Dr Bakhtiar's freedom-seeking ideas, solidarity with and support for the movement by the national and independent students is considered to be a national duty.

A conference held by a group of Iranian women and female students residing in Paris--during which the [word indistinct] rights of women and woman's role in the clerical regime were discussed--was very warmly welcomed. In speeches delivered at the conference the numerous crimes committed by the clergy against women and the articles concerning women's rights in the [word indistinct] constitution of the clergy were discussed. Extremely valuable remarks were made regarding the trampling on the family protection law by the clergy as well as on articles concerning women in the terrifying and regrettable retaliation bill.

At the end of the meeting, which was attended by more than (?600) female students, the need for women's struggle was stressed and, after singing an Iranian anthem, the participants expressed their solidarity with the National Resistance of Iran in unveiling the reactionary, abominable and inhumane regime of the clergy.

CSO: 4906

BRIEFS

QOTBZADEH FORMING NEW PARTY--Kuwait, 14 Apr (AFP)--Former Iranian Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh is attempting to form a new political party to counter what he describes as communist efforts to edge moderates out of power in Iran, the Kuwaiti daily AL-SIYASSAH reported today. Mr Qotbzadeh said that communist forces in Iran were using the Moslem Fundamentalist Islamic Republican Party (IRP) to oust all moderates, such as President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, from power. He claimed that communist agents were paying out \$400,000 a week in Tehran alone to win influence and ultimately seize power. The former minister said that a strong reaction to communist advances was developing in Iran, as people feared growing communist infiltration of the IRP. He told AL-SIYASSAH that merchants in Tehran bazar, which was a major hotspot of the Iranian revolution and Mr Qotbzadeh's own power base, were shifting their support to President Bani-Sadr to counter the communist threat. [Text] [NC141248 Paris AFP in English 1218 GMT 14 Apr 81]

IMPORTS VIA USSR INCREASE--Tehran, 12 Apr (AFP)--The volume of Iranian imports arriving via the Soviet Union and the Iranian port of Anzali on the Caspian Sea rose 42 percent last year, the newspaper ETELA'AT said today. About 561,600 tons of goods, including chemicals, machines, lumber and motorbikes were unloaded at Anzali, the newspaper adds. Iranian exports transported via this port totalled 22,796 tons, the paper said, without specifying the previous year's figures. Last September Iran concluded a transit agreement with Moscow designed to circumvent Western economic sanctions in response to the holding of American hostages in Iran. An Iranian delegation is to travel to Moscow late this month for talks on improving lines of communication between the two countries. [Text] [NC121643 Paris AFP in English 1632 GMT 12 Apr 81]

AVIATION, WEATHER BUREAU MERGED--According to the Central News Unit, the cabinet has approved the bill relating to the merger of the Civil Aviation Authority and the Weather Bureau into one organization. According to the cabinet's approval, banks have been ordered not to collect mortgage repayments from residents in the country's southern regions. [Text] [LD062132 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 6 Apr 81]

AGRICULTURE MINISTER SEES AUSTRALIAN ENVOY--The Australian charge d'affaires and commercial counsellor at the Australian Embassy in Tehran has met with Agriculture and Rural Construction Minister Mohammad Salamat. They discussed agricultural and economic cooperation. [Text] [GF061255 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 6 Apr 81]

ROMANIAN AMBASSADOR MEETS--The Romanian ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Iran met with the Iranian deputy agriculture minister today. During the meeting the Romanian ambassador put forward proposals on increasing bilateral cooperation in the field of agriculture. [Text] [CF091008 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 9 Apr 81]

ISRAELI-IRANIAN ARMS DEAL ALLEGED--Kuwait, 3 Apr (INA)--High-level diplomatic sources in the Netherlands capital have said that the Zionist entity has agreed to supply the Persian regime with various weapons including Uzi machineguns. Kuwaiti newspaper AL-ANBA' cites these sources as saying that approval came in the wake of the recent talks between the Zionist entity and Persian regime in the Netherlands. The paper indicates that these weapons were previously purchased by the shah's regime and include ammunition for the air force and long-range artillery. [Text] [JN031206 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1145 GMT 3 Apr 81]

C80: 4802

TEHRAN EXPLOSION SAID TO MARK RISE AGAINST KHOMEYNI

NC071857 Baghdad Radio in Persian to Iran 0600 GMT 7 Apr 81

[Station commentary]

[Excerpt] The Iranians were slowly losing their hopes and thought that until Khomeyni's death his regime will be in power. But with the continuation of struggles, with growing of the struggles, with the intensification of the people's unrest and [words indistinct] and (?explosions in various towns and cities) the people are regaining hope and self-reliance can be seen and the (?society has started a struggle and a strong fight to crush the regime of blood and fire) [word indistinct].

The extent of the strugglers of the masses and of organizations believing in an armed struggle with Khomeyni's regime are increasingly daily, and these struggles are not seen in the form of an attack on a far-reaching point or on an unimportant (?person), but in the form of attack on centers of power and importance. (?This is the struggle) which started in the new spring, in the new year, in the first month which has not ended. The first bomb exploded at the headquarters of the revolution guards central committee in Baharestan Square and at the Majlis building. Yes, spring this year started with the first explosion in Baharestan. This year Iran's spring has started from Baharestan. This is a new chapter which has been added in the honors of the revolutionaries and Iranian patriots in their struggle against a bloodthirsty domination which has drawn Iran to death and war, to despotism and backwardness.

We have repeatedly said that the struggle of a people with the despotic or reactionary system ruling their country is the natural process in the people's life. God has created humans as free entities, and this is why the Iranians have started their resistance against Khomeyni and the other servants of imperialism so that they can establish a national and popular rule belonging to them, for them and at their service.

The revolutionaries and national organizations have never believed that this great calamity which has labeled itself the so-called Islamic Republic is actually Islamic and, as it claims, anti-imperialist. How can Khomeyni, Bani-sadr and the others be anti-imperialists when 2 years ago the imperialists had placed all their propaganda network fully at their disposal so that they could seal the mouths of people who had shouted "death to imperialism?"

The people's struggles have intensified. The antiregime organizations in Iran and abroad are trying to set up a full-fledged unity for active and coordinated acts.

Go, oh oppressed people; go, oh deprived masses; go, oh rebellious Iranian people. Go to Jamaran and (?stop the demon) before he [word indistinct] leaves Iran for Libya or anywhere else and (?crush him to death). On Iranian revolutionaries and freedom-wanters, oh writers of history. It is 2 years now that Iran's history, your lives and the future of your revolution have been darkened by a bunch of clergymen. Oh Iranians, the facts and the terrible nature of the regime of terror are so clear that silence will only disgrace the society and cannot be attributed to anything but national weakness and you have never been and are not weak. Therefore, rise Iranians and before the bombs and explosions are returned go to Jamaran and blow up the treacherous (?occupier) of Jamaran, the Satan of Jamaran. Rise Iranians! What does silence mean? (?What is the meaning of sitting idle?) Should the Iranians be (?disgraced) more than this?

CSD: 4906

ANTI-SYRIAN RADIO BROADCASTS CALL FOR BROAD FRONT AGAINST REGIME

JNO81858 Baghdad Voice of Arab Syria in Arabic 1930 GMT 7 Apr 81

["Text" of 7 April 1981 statement by Arab Socialist Ba'th Party provisional command on 34th anniversary of party's establishment]

[Excerpts] Today marks the 34th anniversary of the establishment of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party. Following years of continuous struggle by the founders who gave their souls to their nation through preaching and entrenching the party's principles, the first constituent congress was convened on 7 April 1947 and the establishment of the party as officially and publicly announced.

To masses of our heroic people, the assassination of Salah ad-Din al-Bitar--one of the two founders of the Ba'thist movement--only proved the malice harbored by Hafiz al-Asad's gang for the party, its founders and strugglers, who are closely linked with the people and struggling to achieve this people's liberation and progress. This also proved the hatred harbored by this gang for all the popular movements opposing it; this regime has killed hundreds of people belonging to these popular movements in criminal massacres.

The traitorous regime's support for the Khomeyni clique against our people in Iraq and the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party in their honorable pan-Arab battle, which is being waged to liberate the usurped Arab waters and territories, is only proof of that regime's deep-rooted malice against every honest and true pan-Arab nationalist and everything that is connected in any way with our nation and party.

On the occasion of its anniversary, the Ba'th Party calls on all the sons of our struggling people to do everything possible to safeguard and bolster our country's national unity in the face of the regime's attempts to fragment this unity. It also calls on all efforts to establish a broad national front, which will serve as a major and essential framework for confronting the renegade regime by every possible means and completely toppling it.

We pledge to our people and nation that we will follow this path. Glory and immortality to our righteous martyrs. Death to the regime of criminal murderers.

[Signed] The Provisional Regional Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party,
7 April 1981.

CSO: 4802

BRIEFS

MOSCOW FRIENDSHIP SOCIETIES CONGRESS--Baghdad, 13 Apr (INA)--An Iraqi-Soviet Friendship Society delegation left for Moscow today to attend the Fourth International Congress of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries. The congress will begin the day after tomorrow, Wednesday, and will last 2 days. The delegation will hold talks with Iraqi-Soviet Friendship Society officials on relations of friendship and cooperation between the two societies to serve the interests of the two peoples. [Text] [JN130900 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0830 GMT 13 Apr 81]

RAMADAN MEETS FRENCH MINISTER--Baghdad, 6 Apr (INA)--Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister, met here this morning with French Foreign Trade Minister Michel Cointat. Addressing the French minister and his delegation, Taha Yasin Ramadan expressed Iraq's pride and satisfaction at the developed relations between the two countries. He added: We view these relations as a reflection of Europe's relations with the Arabs due to Iraq's advanced position in the Arab homeland and to France's position in Europe. He asserted that Iraq's continued contacts and consultations with France on all matters are an important and useful factor in maintaining and developing their cooperative relations. Taha Yasin Ramadan expressed satisfaction at the French companies' continued participation in implementing development projects in Iraq despite the war conditions. The French minister, who arrived in Baghdad yesterday, expressed France's appreciation for and respect of Iraq. He also praised the profound relations linking the two friendly countries. He said: We have distinguished relations with Iraq. France is giving Iraq every means of support even under difficult circumstances. France is also encouraging French companies to implement the projects in Iraq, with which these companies are entrusted. The two sides discussed aspects of cooperation between the two countries and means to bolster this cooperation. [Text] [JN061053 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1020 GMT 6 Apr 81]

BA'TH OFFICIAL LEAVES FOR CZECHOSLOVAKIA--Baghdad, 4 Apr (INA)--Hikmat Ibrahim, member of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command, left for Prague this afternoon on a visit of several days to Czechoslovakia to attend the 16th Czechoslovak Communist Party (CPCZ) Congress opening there the day after tomorrow, Monday. Hikmat Ibrahim said that during the visit, which comes at the invitation of the CPCZ, he will hold talks with Czechoslovak officials aimed at bolstering relations between the two countries. [Text] [JN041407 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1330 GMT 4 Apr 81]

IRAQI-SOVIET GAS INDUSTRY SUBCOMMITTEE MEETS--Baghdad, 9 Apr (INA)--The 15th session of the Gas and Oil Industry Subcommittee of the Joint Committee for Economic and Technical Cooperation with the Soviet Union began here today. The agenda of the session, which will last 4 days, includes a discussion of the progress of projects being implemented by Soviet establishments and cooperation between the two sides in the gas and oil industry. The Iraqi side was headed by 'Isam 'Abd ar-Rahim al-Jalabi, chairman of the General Corporation for Oil Projects, while the Soviet side was headed by Zandar Avsimaykhovich Takoyev, deputy minister of the Ministry of the Petroleum Industry. [Text] [JN090954 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0855 GMT 9 Apr 81]

COOPERATION PROTOCOL WITH NORWAY--Baghdad, 11 Apr (INA)--Iraq and Norway have agreed to develop bilateral cooperation in the fields of exchanging commercial, industrial, maritime navigation and petrochemical commodities. This agreement came at the end of the first round of meetings of the Iraqi-Norwegian joint committee for economic, industrial and technical cooperation here today. The protocol, which was signed for Iraq by Tahir Tawfiq, Revolution Command Council member and minister of industry and minerals, and for Norway by Kari Gjesteb, minister of commerce and shipping, provides for also developing cooperation in the fields of construction, telecommunications, roads and bridges. The meetings began here last Wednesday. [Text] [JN111912 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1820 GMT 11 Apr 81]

TEHRAN PUBLISHING HOUSE STORMED--A group of Khomeyni's guards have stormed a publishing house in Tehran and arrested eight of its employees, charging them with opposing the regime. In today's edition, the so-called ISLAMIC REVOLUTION newspaper says that the guards stormed the publishing house while an edition of the weekly MUJAHID (STRUGGLER)--which is produced by Mujahidi al-Sha'b Movement opposed to Khomeyni's racist methods--was being printed. The paper adds that the magazine, which has been banned for several months, carried articles calling for toppling the regime. On the other hand, the so-called ISLAMIC REVOLUTION newspaper says that the leader of Khomeyni's guards in Kashmar in Eastern Iran was killed in a recent clash with an opposition group. The paper adds that there had been some changes in the ranks of police officials in Tehran. The paper quotes a statement issued by the security forces public relations office as saying that more changes will be made later and that the police commander in Karaj, west of Tehran, was replaced due to his inability to control unrest in that region. [Text] [GF111541 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 11 Apr 81]

HAMMADI CONFERS WITH INDIAN COUNTERPART--Baghdad, 9 Apr (INA)--Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi met here tonight with Indian Foreign Minister Narasimha. They discussed topics of mutual interest, particularly those related to the nonaligned movement. The two ministers also stressed the need to continue consultations and contacts to bolster the endless role of the nonaligned in serving the peoples' interests and consolidating cooperation among the movement's member-states on bases of equality and equal benefits in order to attain a just international economic order. They also discussed means to develop the relations between the two friendly countries. [Text] [JN091949 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1935 GMT 9 Apr 81]

EMBASSY STAFFER KILLED IN BEIRUT--Baghdad, 9 Apr (INA)--Cowardly Shu'ubist elements assassinated here today an employee of the Iraqi Embassy in Beirut. The same elements carried out a similar act last week. Embassy employee Hatim Ma'yuf Bahr fell victim today when armed men opened fire on him while he was in his diplomatic car near the airport on the al-Ghubayri road in the western part of Beirut. Martyr Bahr was leaving Beirut airport in his car when armed elements opened fire on him not far from a Syrian checkpoint. The same elements assassinated embassy staffer martyr 'Abbadi Husayn Manjal a few days ago. [Text] [JN091907 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1855 GMT 9 Apr 81]

MILITARY PROCUREMENT FROM TURKEY--Adana, 11 Apr (A)--The Iraqi Defense Ministry informed officials involved of its intention to buy in great amounts Turkish-made military and working clothes, shoes, stationery and jeeps as well as drinking water and beer, according to Adana Chamber of Commerce sources. Meanwhile, Algerian state corporations "SONITEX" and "Oric" were seeking a three-year contract under which Algerian firms would be able to import Turkish textile and agricultural products without going through the usual bureaucratic procedures, they added. [Text] [TAl11628 Ankara ANATOLIA in English 1410 GMT 11 Apr 81]

CSO: 4820

COMMENTARY SAYS SYRIAN AID TO IRAN WAS TO BE EXPECTED

JN051751 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 Apr 81

[Station commentary]

[Text] Despite the fact that all Arabs might have been shocked at the news from Baghdad which said that Iranian fighter planes came from Syrian air bases to strafe Iraqi cities and kill innocent civilians, we did not find this strange because we fully understand that the factional, sectarian regime in Syria has more to show in the way of these practices and non-Pan-Arab stands, which do not belong to the Arabs, to their values, interests or future.

A regime which indiscriminately kills children, women and old people in Syria to avenge one of its mercenaries and destroys Syrian cities and quarters at the appearance of a stand opposing its fascist rule is likely to make the land of Arab Syria a base to attack fraternal Iraq.

The Damascus regime, which buries children, old people and women alive under the debris of buildings, schools and hospitals in Beirut and Zahlah through the barbarous shelling of the two cities with tanks, rockets and guns, is also expected to aid and support the Persian regime in Iran in its aggressive war against the fraternal Arab country of Iraq.

When we review the outcome of policies, practices and stands of the factional, sectarian and fascist regime in Damascus, we understand that this regime, by openly supporting the enemies of the Arab nation and by providing services for the enemies of this nation through killing and persecuting and frightening the peaceful citizens in Syria and Lebanon, is totally divorced from our Pan-Arab existence and our culture. The regime has turned the northern front into blood baths unwitnessed in contemporary Arab history.

In view of these practices, which stem from deep rancor against the Arabs, we and the Arab citizens no longer ask what the factional, sectarian regime wants of Syria, Lebanon and the Arabs. The situation is beyond asking superficial questions about the identity of the destructive goals in the Arab homeland of the Syrian terrorist regime. The urgent question is: How long will the proud Syrian people pay with their security, stability and prosperity for the continued presence of the terrorist Shu'ubist rule, and how long will the Arabs remain bystanders, indifferently watching the criminal practices of the Syrian regime which is dragging the whole region toward

a catastrophe that will spare no one, and how long will silence prevail in the Arab world when the massacres of the al-Asad brothers' regime continue in Syria and Lebanon and when the regime openly participates with the Persians in their aggressive war against the people of proud Iraq? These are too many questions, derived from the debris of Syrian, Lebanese and Iraqi quarters and cities. These treacherous crimes of the Syrian regime are destroying the nation, its cultural values, future and fateful cause. We ask these questions of the Arab nation throughout the Arab homeland.

CSO: 4802

BRIEFS

MIDEAST UGED TO SOLVE OWN PROBLEMS--The encouraging signs from the eastern end of the Arab world--prospects for a negotiated end to Iraqi-Iranian hostilities--contrast vividly with the deterioration of the situation in Lebanon. The presence of U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig, jetting around the Middle East in the midst of two raging battlefields, reminds us that the top item on the Arab agenda is to put our own house in order--relying on our own resources and in keeping with our own priorities--before attempting to talk with a strong voice or a clear message to the rest of the world. It is evident now that the presence of the superpowers in the Middle East is more of an obstacle to an Arab-Israeli peace than it is a guarantor of stability. The path to a coherent dialog between the Arab world and the superpowers must first pass through a stage of inter-Arab dialog, and this dialog can only take place in an atmosphere of security and self-confidence. The threat that Iraq felt from Iran, the complexities of Syria's role in Lebanon and the unenviably delicate position of the Palestinian national movement in between the other forces in the Arab world have combined to prevent any kind of meaningful discussion in the Arab world about a strategy to make either war or peace to resolve the Palestinian issue. The immediate danger is that superpowers are adept at exploiting such periods of confusion in the Middle East to serve their own ends. This period is no exception. That is why we welcome the prospect of a negotiated settlement between Iraq and Iran, which in turn would allow the Arab world to focus its full attention and resources on the Palestinian issue. [Text] [JN080823 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 8 Apr 81 p 4]

CSO: 4820

LEBANESE FRONT URGES WORLD ACTION ON SITUATION

NC081334 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 8 Apr 81

[8 April statement by the Lebanese Front]

[Text] Lebanon, the stronghold of civilization and humanity in the east, is threatened with extinction. For the past 8 days the Syrian Army has been continuously shelling the residential quarters, hospitals, orphanages, schools and places of worship in Zahlah and in Al-Ashrafiyah and other parts of eastern Beirut. The Syrian Army has been clashing with the Lebanese Army in continuous bloody fighting, refusing to comply with the cease-fire order issued by the president of the republic--the supreme commander of the Arab Deterrent Forces.

The Lebanese Front calls on the world, which has reacted to this painful situation, to express its will by adopting actual measures urging the Security Council to deploy UN forces in place of the Syrian forces, which have changed from deterrent forces to a hostile party behaving as occupation forces. The front hopes that the UN forces will be deployed throughout Lebanon, because the whole of Lebanon is threatened by the ugliest of catastrophies.

The front also calls for the disarming of aliens, who are everywhere in Lebanon, and for helping this homeland to regain its sovereignty over all its territory.

The front urges and insists on world action so as not to miss this opportunity. As you look today on Lebanon, all mankind looks on you.

CSO: 4802

CHRISTIAN LEADER CITED ON CURRENT HOSTILITIES

LD081103 Paris LE MONDE in French 7 Apr 81 pp 1, 8

[Dispatch by Lucien George: "Israelis Do Not Rule Out Support for Christians Against Syrians"]

[Excerpt] Beirut--East Beirut looked like a ghost city this weekend. The shells were no longer falling inside this sector, where half the capital's population lives. But the rumble of gunfire was continuous, moving along the demarcation line, from one hotspot to another: the port, downtown, Barjawi, the museum, and, on Saturday evening and even more on Sunday morning, reaching the suburban zones previously spared (Sam'an Gallery, al-Hazmiyah, al-Hadath and Kafr Shima), through which passed the only access route still serving as an umbilical cord between the two Beiruts; Beirut has thus been cut in two. To cross from one sector of Beirut to the other on Sunday we had to make a 60km detour through the mountains and spend 1 hour in a shelter in al-Hazmiyah waiting for the bombardment to abate. However, the distance between our points of departure and arrival is only just 1 km as the crow flies and just the previous day a detour of only 10 km was necessary.

Going from house to house, you observe that the inhabitants, still anxious about the future, are concerned less with a cease-fire than with understanding the causes of what they are suffering and ending once and for all this crazy situation in which the war is resumed after a few months of calm in the shape of a sudden bombardment of their district by the Syrian artillery, which blindly hits tens and even hundreds of people, if you count the wounded in the streets and houses.

"We Want Political Support"

Bashir al-Jumayyil, leader of the Lebanese Christian forces, expressed that popular feeling by telling us: "The cease-fire does not matter very much to us, nor ultimately does it matter whether we lose Zahlah or whether Beirut is bombarded. This time we want the problem to be posed in depth and in full. We want the ambassadors--from the United States, France and the FRG--and the Apostolic Nuncio, to stop advising us to calm down and announcing that their countries are working to persuade Damascus to cease fire. In so doing they are not helping us, they are helping the Syrians, who are bombarding us. Nor is the world helping us by declarations or by sending blankets and medicines. Thank you all but we do not need them. We want political support and, if necessary, military support to liberate ourselves. We observe an evolution in the world favorable to our cause: we are better understood. Everybody can now see that we did not provoke the Syrians and nobody is claiming that we did.

"Nor are we retaliating. We do not want to retaliate because that would mean bombarding Lebanese Muslims, who know that they are as much the targets as the Christians, even if only the second phase.

"I do not know why the Syro-Palestinians launched these hostilities and I do not know what they want. We are told that it might all be connected with Secretary of State Haig's Mideast tour, with the Palestine National Council meeting in Damascus on 12 April or even with the Polish crisis. But in any case we are no longer going to be used as cannon fodder."

CSO: 4800

BRIEFS

ADF'S STATEMENT ON 'SUSPICIOUS' ENVELOPES--Today, some information media reported a statement by a local organization concerning an incident that took place at Beirut International Airport, namely, that an officer has provided facilities for transferring suspicious-looking envelopes to certain elements in Beirut's eastern sector. The Arab deterrent forces command utterly denies this report and urges those organizations in Beirut's western sector to be factual and objective in their reports and not to be taken in by some of their elements or those who are working for them in the public institutions. Those to whom the envelopes were addressed do not need Beirut's International Airport--particularly in these circumstances--to get what they need to their area. This is a well-known fact. [Text] [NC121220 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 12 Apr 81]

ISRAELIS' CAPTURE NEAR ZAHLAH--Sharjah, 7 Apr (QNA)--The paper AL-KHALIJ, published here today, cites sources close to the ADF in Lebanon as saying that ADF units have managed to capture several Israeli officers who were working with the phalangist militias in the hills overlooking the city of Zahlah. The sources add that during a clearing operation of these hills yesterday, the ADF came across fortifications in which the captured Israeli officers were stationed. The sources add that these officers had earlier supervised the construction of these fortifications. The same paper earlier published reports on the arrival of six Israeli officers in Zahlah at a time when scores of fighters of the phalangist militias were thronging to Zahlah. The Israeli officers participated in redrawing Zahlah's military map and determined the kinds of arms to be distributed among the phalangist fighters. [Text] [JN071516 Doha QNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 7 Apr 81]

SYRIA BANS PATRIARCH'S RETURN--We have learned that Greek Catholic Patriarch Maximos V Hakim, who went to Damascus yesterday to meet with Syrian officials for talks on the Zahlah incidents, was today prevented from returning to Beirut. The reasons for keeping him in the Syrian capital are not known. [Text] [NC041839 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 4 Apr 81]

CSO: 4802

FOREIGN MINISTER ON ABORTIVE COUP, MOROCCAN POLICY

LD101351 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 7 Apr 81 p 7

[Interview with Mauritanian Foreign Minister Mohamed el Mokhtar Ould Zamel by Akli Hamouni: "We Have Withdrawn From a Conflict, Not From the Problem Which is Right on Our Borders"; date and place of interview unspecified]

[Text] [Question] After the 16 March aggression inflicted on Mauritania various international bodies were approached. The Mauritanian complaint was considered by the last Arab League Ministerial Council, which charged its secretary general with a mediation mission. Can you tell us, minister, what the results of this move have been?

[Answer] It is perhaps not superfluous to recall the conditions under which this act of aggression took place. The Mauritanian Government which resulted from the changes of 10 July 1978 very rapidly proclaimed its desire to restore peace to Mauritania and end the country's involvement in the fratricidal and unjust war which we were experiencing. In doing this, our aim was not only to restore peace to Mauritania but to try and contribute to restoring it throughout the region. And for a long time we tried to bring the good word to both sides. But since we unfortunately did not meet with the anticipated favorable response, we were forced to reach a bilateral agreement with the Polisario Front whereby Mauritania not only established peace with the Polisario Front but also withdrew from the Western Sahara conflict. Withdraw is perhaps not quite the right term, but we opted out as a party to the conflict. We could not withdraw from a problem which is right on our borders, in our natural zone, and which sets two fraternal peoples against each other.

By signing this agreement we confirmed our desire to continue to maintain the best possible relations with both sides and not to lose heart in the search for a path to a permanent peace in the region. But it seems that the Moroccan authorities did not interpret it that way. From that time on they began to go in for a number of provocations, which have taken different forms, from threatening statements to lying press campaigns. The most outrageous of these provocations was the bombing of the Boulanouar district. Despite all this we have tried to keep our cool and to seek constant dialogue with Morocco, which has exploited certain opportunities to recruit Mauritanian criminals whom it has turned into "political leaders." It is within this context that a number of individuals, including some former officers, noncommissioned officers or cadets who had been dismissed or had deserted from the Mauritanian Army were recruited. This motley crew announced via its leader

that it had formed a group of "free officers" and did so at the very time that President Haydala was paying his last visit to Morocco. That shows the intentions and the repeated provocations. It also shows our patience and our desire not to aggravate matters despite the attacks of which we were the victims.

We had known for some time that Morocco was preparing the 16 March aggression. We not only appealed to friendly countries to advise Morocco not to embark on this serious adventure, but we officially warned it ourselves against this adventure, via the Council of Ministers. Despite this, Morocco spent 3 months training a commando force in the vicinity of Marrakesh and sent it on a terrorist operation against our country with the aim of assassinating political and military leaders.

The response was swift. The commando forces were crushed and the truth came out. We, of course, reacted by breaking off our diplomatic relations with Morocco and laying the matter before international bodies: first the Arab League, to which we and the kingdom of Morocco belong, the OAU, the United Nations and the Security Council, the Islamic Conference, and finally the Nonaligned Movement. Our complaint was examined by the Arab League at its last ministerial session held in Tunis. It was clear to everyone that Morocco had launched an unmistakable act of aggression against Mauritania and that acts of aggression are specifically condemned by the charters of both the Arab League and the other bodies. And this was very obvious despite the confusion that the Moroccan authorities tried to create. The Arab League Council charged the secretary general with an exploratory and mediation mission. It is understood that the secretary general is to brief the council members--that is the foreign ministers--and to call an extraordinary session if necessary. The aim of the Arab League is to try and find ground for agreement between the two countries on the basis of the principles of the Arab League charter--that is, mutual respect, noninterference in internal and external affairs and respect for member states' sovereignty and independence. Undoubtedly if the kingdom of Morocco had respected these fundamental principles, we would not be in the situation we are in today, which is typified by Morocco's reiterated intention to continue along the path of expansionism and hegemonism in the region.

[Question] In your opinion, minister, what precisely is the aim being pursued by the Moroccan regime through its repeated maneuvers to destabilize Mauritania?

[Answer] I think Morocco and the Moroccan authorities are better placed to answer that question. But there has been one constant in Moroccan politics since the fifties, namely expansionism to the detriment of its neighbors. All its neighbors--near and also more distant--have experienced its territorial claims at one time or another. This course seemed to mark time at one point, during the 1961-1972 period. But the basis of Moroccan policy apparently remains this desire to expand at neighbors' expense. Whether directly through military occupation or by other, indirect means which enable the kingdom to expand its hegemony within the whole area to which it belongs. I think it is this which must be noted and which is behind all the Moroccan attempts. It is obvious that these impulses are no help to the Moroccan people, nor to the peoples of the region, who in these difficult times affecting both Africa and the Arab world aspire to tranquillity, peace, fraternity and cooperation.

[Question] In fact, minister, what the Moroccan regime particularly criticizes you for is your neutrality in the Western Sahara conflict, believing that such an attitude should not allow relations with the Polisario Front. How do you appraise this Moroccan argument?

[Answer] You know, as I have just said, that we withdrew from the Saharan conflict on the basis of clear decisions which in our view accord not only with the Mauritanian people's aspirations but also with those of the region's peoples. And we did this with complete liberty and sovereignty. Moreover we asserted this neutral stance as a fundamental decision for us. To wish to deflect us from it or reproach us for it is to underestimate our desire, a desire which has been a feature of our people for centuries, our desire for independence and sovereignty over our own territory. If it is this that Morocco reproaches us for, it is mistaken if it thinks it can dictate to the world and to Mauritania. Mauritania has made a very clear and unambiguous choice. This choice has been brought to the knowledge not only of the Moroccan authorities but also of international bodies. Mauritania made this choice quite freely and Moroccan acts of provocation will certainly not deflect it from it.

[Question] Now, minister, would you describe the present state of relations between Mauritania and the Polisario Front?

[Answer] It is difficult to try to rule out relations between the Polisario Front and Mauritania. First for geographical and human reasons, and also for realistic reasons. Mauritania was unfortunately in contact with the Polisario Front for 3 years. I say unfortunately, because it was on the battlefield in a war which we consider to be not only unjust but also fratricidal. So to try and deny contacts between Mauritania and the Saharan people today is to disregard the fact that they have always existed. Anyway we cannot ignore the Polisario Front, because we freely and openly signed a peace agreement with it, an agreement which I repeat has been communicated to all international bodies. To try to persuade us that it is possible to ignore the Polisario is really to display great shortsightedness and dishonesty in analyzing things. Morocco's great error is its attempt to make out it ignores the Polisario Front. In reality it does not ignore it since they are in contact every day. Unfortunately this is on the battlefield. For our part we hope to see them round the negotiating table soon, seeking peace and understanding, and not always on the battlefield.

[Question] Do you not think, minister, that the change which has occurred at the head of the Senegalese state may be considered a factor lessening tension in the region?

[Answer] Among the African countries, Senegal is the one which has the most extensive relations with Mauritania, very longstanding relations of all types--historical, cultural, human, economic and religious too. It is unquestionably a partner with which Mauritania has very great potential for cooperation. Moreover this is the daily experience of our populations, who maintain very intensive relations all along the border and even inside each country.

This reality was still further confirmed by our leaders during President Abdou Diouf's last visit to Nouakchott on 5 March. This visit restored relations between the two countries to the level where they should be--that is, the level of joint

action and intensification of cooperation. Of course Morocco tried to implicate Senegal in its attempted coup by sending elements of its commando force and their equipment and armaments via its territory. We were not deceived. Morocco quite simply took advantage of the fact that the border between Senegal and Mauritania is open—for the reasons which I have just mentioned—in order to commit its act of aggression from the border.

We are convinced that the feeling engendered by President Abdou Diouf's last visit to Nouakchott will continue to animate bilateral relations between the two countries and create the conditions for deeper understanding and greater cooperation.

[Question] Exactly, minister, do you not think the conspicuous excellence of relations between Senegal and Mauritania is such that it may favorably influence the whole region which is currently experiencing great tension because of the Moroccan war of aggression?

[Answer] It is to be hoped that good relations between states in the region contribute to reducing tension, which is already at a very serious level. But it is obvious that it is the kingdom of Morocco which bears the entire responsibility for this tension, and, no matter what good will exists on the part of others, tension will persist until the Moroccan authorities see reason and regain the desire for dialogue and understanding with their immediate neighbors.

[Question] It would seem that the same problems which dominated the Freetown summit meeting will be raised again with the same urgency at the next OAU summit, especially the question of allowing the West Sahara to join the organization. Minister, what stance will your country adopt?

[Answer] It is regrettable that some problems raised at OAU level have not so far been solved. However, that does not mean that the OAU does not do an enormous amount of work which has many positive aspects. However, it is regrettable that the West Sahara problem, which the OAU has been considering for several years, has still not been solved. But it was debated and fully clarified in that the last Freetown summit asked the ad hoc committee to examine the West Sahara problem in greater detail and to propose a peace plan. All that was done in the allotted time. Consequently the only thing which can be done now is to try and persuade the sides involved and concerned to support this peace plan too; the next summit must not dodge the issue but strive to take the necessary decisions on a problem which has been studied from all sides and in all its aspects. I think this makes the next summit decisive since it will have to take a clear stance on the basis of an examination of the proposals made by the ad hoc committee.

[Question] Following the abortive coup on 16 March, some Western countries reputed to be traditional supporters of Morocco assured Mauritania if not of their support at least of their sympathy. Mr Minister, how do you view this attitude they have taken?

[Answer] We greatly appreciated the displays of sympathy for us after the 16 March operation. We interpret the messages from those countries as recognition of the true facts of the situation as it really looked and also as an implicit condemnation of the Moroccan aggression. Of course these messages are also a warning from the international community to the Moroccan authorities and this is, indeed,

particularly remarkable since they come from states which are reputed to be traditional supporters of Morocco. In any case they show how isolated Morocco is in its policy of expansion and aggression.

[Question] Minister, you attended the last Saharan States' Ministerial session, which was held in Algiers. The West Saharan and Chadian problems were exhaustively discussed there. What contribution do you think this emergent organization can make to restoring peace in those two countries?

[Answer] First I am pleased to note that the timetable fixed at the Bamako summit has been respected. The recent ministerial session in Algiers was an ordinary session which enabled us to review the work already done or started and to examine, in a spirit of openness, dialogue and consultation, the various problems affecting the region--including, of course, the Chadian and West Saharan problems. The tension which prevails in the West and the tension in Chad in particular were examined on the basis of the need to aid that country after such a long, bloody and devastating war. It needs aid from Africa and the whole international community. It goes without saying that the Saharan states will not fail it.

[Question] What is your conclusion, minister?

[Answer] As I have just said, Mauritania, if not the region, has just experienced very serious events, which come on top of a situation which is itself very serious. The kingdom of Morocco bears the responsibility not only for what has just happened but also for what might have happened. However, we hope that it will understand that, like other peoples, our desire for independence and sovereignty cannot be swayed by provocations and aggressions. Moreover, this desire for independence and sovereignty is equaled only by our desire to reach agreement with all our neighbors on the basis of principles which are universally recognized by the international community and organizations--in other words good-neighborly relations and mutual respect. We hope that the Moroccan authorities will understand that interstate relations today can only be durably established on the basis of these principles.

CSO: 4400

MAURITANIA

BRIEFS

U.S. AID TO MOROCCO CONDEMNED--Dar es Salaam--Mauritanian Minister of Culture Ndugu ba Mahmoud said increased U.S. military aid to Morocco is a danger to the situation in Western Sahara. The minister, who is on a visit to Kenya, said the U.S. action threatens the possibility of holding talks on a peaceful settlement of the 6-year conflict. Addressing reporters in Dar es Salaam, the minister said Moroccan military strength would never crush the struggle of the people of Western Sahara, who were ready to die for their independence. Ndugu Mahmoud, who is in Dar es Salaam to deliver a message to President Nyerere on the attempted overthrow of the Mauritanian Government, refuted Moroccan allegations that the freedom fighters of Western Sahara had bases in Mauritania. Ndugu Mahmoud has been to Ethiopia, Kenya, Zambia, Zimbabwe and is expected to visit Madagascar before returning to Mauritania. [Text] [LD111550 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1000 GMT 11 Apr 81 EA]

BEGINNING OF RETURN TO NORMALITY--Nouakchott, Mauritania, 11 Apr (AFP)--A 7 pm-to-6 am curfew installed in Mauritania following the attempted military takeover by rebel officers on 16 March has been rolled back to begin at 11 pm, according to an official announcement on Radio Mauritania. The measure was seen as marking the beginning of a return to normality in Mauritania. It came just after the departure yesterday of Mauritanian Premier Ahmed Ould Bneiara for a working visit to Libya, and just before the departure of President Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala to Senegal today. [Text] [AB110919 Paris AFP in English 0704 GMT 11 Apr 81]

CSO: 4420

PHOSPHATE EXPORTS TO USSR TO BE INCREASED

LD081517 Casablanca LE MATIN in French 3 Apr 81 pp 1, 4

[Unattributed report: "Morocco Is to Increase Exports of Phosphoric or Superphosphoric acid to the USSR by 500,000 Tons per Year"]

[Text] Mohamed Karim Lamrani, director general of the Moroccan Phosphate Office, together with his principal aides, received Boris Kosolapov, general director of the Soviet state enterprise Soyuzpromeksport, at the office's headquarters in Casablanca on 30 March.

The latter was accompanied by A.A. Borodko, USSR trade representative in Morocco, A.V. Vlasov, expert of the USSR trade mission in Morocco, and D.A. Kondratenko, chief engineer of the USSR trade mission in Morocco.

The object of the talks was to examine means of broadening the cooperation between the two countries in the sphere of commodity exchange envisaged by the 10 March 1978 protocol between the kingdom of Morocco and the USSR.

In addition to the quantities of phosphoric acid and fertilizers already set aside for the 1981-1985 period, the Soviet delegation expressed its desire to import from Morocco a quantity of phosphoric or superphosphoric acid amounting to 500,000 tons per year as from 1982.

The meeting took place in a frank and cordial atmosphere which confirmed the two sides' desire to work toward developing economic relations between the two countries.

For the director general of the Moroccan Phosphate Office it was also an opportunity to confirm the group's desire to actively continue the implementation of its program for developing the production of phosphoric acid and fertilizer in Morocco.

It will be recalled that these plans relate to the construction of eight units producing 500 tons per day of anhydride acid at Jorf Lasfar, the first of which is to be commissioned from the end of 1983, and of four similar units at Nador, whose launch is planned for 1985.

Another meeting will take place soon in Moscow to concretize these talks by broadening the agreements already concluded.

CSO: 4400

QATAR

BRIEFS

THREAT TO JAPAN'S OIL SUPPLIES DENIED--Doha, 13 Apr (KUNA)--The Qatari minister of oil, Shaydh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Khalifah al Thani, Monday denied that his country had threatened to cut off oil exports to Japan, and said Qatar was keen to continue trade and economic relations with its Japanese clients. In an interview published by AR-KA'Y newspaper, the minister said "the whole matter is no more than an ordinary negotiating process" between Qatar and Japanese companies for renewal of previous contracts. He said the renewal of marketing contracts has been requested by those companies. The minister was commenting on Tokyo press reports which said that Qatar had threatened to stop oil flow to Japan unless the Japanese businessmen agreed on a 6.5 dollar per-barrel premium over the official current price of 37.42 dollars per barrel. Shaydh 'Abd al-'Aziz said prices, the situation in the world oil market, and a long-range strategy will be discussed by the OPEC Ministerial Conference to be held in Geneva this May. He added that OPEC is interested in laying down a just and logical price-scale and to create a favourable world atmosphere to ensure continuity of oil supplies to the industrial countries and the world. [Text] [LD131132 Kuwait KUNA in English 1004 GMT 13 Apr 81]

CSO: 4820

STUDY EXAMINES 1973-79 DEVELOPMENTS IN ENERGY CRISIS

Jiddah 'UKAZ in Arabic 31 Jan 81 pp 6-7

[Article Supervised by Khalid Bashuwayyah: "Oil Energy Is Industrial Countries' Number One Issue in 1981"]

[Text] Introduction:

The energy issue is considered the event of 1981 and of following years. It represents the most serious challenge facing the advanced industrial world and the poor developing world.

We present in this study the various aspects of the energy crisis and the causes behind it. The study also exposes the secrets behind the stockpiling of oil and behind the manipulation of oil prices in the free market. The study also reveals the leadership role played by the OAPEC [Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries] in preserving the balance of the international economy.

Energy is the number one economic issue topping the priorities of the western industrial countries, Japan and the United States in 1981.

When we mention the energy issue we mean "oil" which is considered the fundamental energy source in the free world industrial countries in the next two decades at least, if not for many years after the year 2000.

The oil energy issue has undergone rapid and enormous developments in the past 30 years. Perhaps the absolutely most important development of these is the creation of the OPEC which includes the oil producing countries in an economic entity that balances the national interests of the producing countries with the economic interests of the consuming countries.

However, the free world industrial countries are complaining of the rise in oil prices and the shortage in oil supplies and they hold the oil producing countries, especially the Gulf countries in their capacity as the biggest producer which provides the industrial world with more than two-thirds the world's oil production, responsible for this situation.

It is true that oil prices rose three times in 1974, 1979 and 1980. However, the increase in oil prices imposed by the OPEC came under the pressure of the insance increase in the prices of consumer and non-consumer goods imposed by the industrial countries on their production which is imported by the oil countries and by all the countries of the third world.

The economy of the free world's industrial countries is also suffering from big inflation as a result of internal problems that have nothing to do with the oil producing countries or with the third world countries which actually shoulder the consequences of this inflation that has led to the increased prices of the goods which the third world, including the oil countries, import.

The truth is that there is no actual crisis in the [oil] prices or production rates and that this crisis is fabricated by the industrial countries and the oil companies in the free world for reasons exposed by a report issued by the OAPEC General Secretariat.

This report points out that the inflation in the industrial countries is what pushes up the oil prices. The report also asserts that the real oil prices in 1979 did not practically exceed the prices of 1974, meaning that the difference in oil prices between 1974 and 1979 was an imaginary difference and tantamount to stacks of paper called dollars.

To clarify this, we say that what we used to buy for one dollar in 1974 now costs, after the passage of 6 years, more than 7 dollars.

This means that the prices of goods imported from the industrial countries have risen seven-fold whereas the price of a barrel of oil which amounted to 17 dollars at the average in 1974 is now 35 dollars at the average. This means that oil prices have doubled in comparison to a seven-fold increase in the prices of the commodities imported from the industrial countries. It is evident that this increase is much too low to equalize the increase in the prices of the commodities exported by the industrial countries which are complaining of the rising oil prices.

In an interview with the U.S. TIME magazine, His Excellency Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, the minister of oil and mineral resources, underlined clearly the elements of the international oil situation, namely that the western and U.S. oil stockpiles are overflowing with reserves and that if the western oil companies act responsibly by drawing from the stockpiled reserves, then this would prevent any strike [sic] in the international oil market.

His excellency warned that maintenance of the current stockpile levels in the United States and some European countries will cause the price of the barrel to rise to 60 dollars.

His excellency also made it clear that the motives of the oil companies for maintaining the current level of oil stockpiles and for not drawing from these stockpiles emanates from their desire to raise the oil prices in order to earn more profits. This means that the oil companies of the industrial west are playing a very dangerous role insofar as the free world economy, and even the entire world economy, is concerned.

However, the matter does not end with the oil companies but goes beyond to the industrial countries, namely the United States, West Europe and Japan. Through their failure to deal with their internal inflation, these countries export this inflation to the outside world, particularly to the third world which is considered the only victim of the western inflation and of the energy crisis reflected in the rising energy costs resulting from western policies seeking to control the entire world economy.

The major industrial countries are, it seems, intentionally keeping the inflation which is afflicting the third world with starvation and with the inability to pay the costs of the energy needed for its food security and development projects. This leads to projecting the oil countries, especially the Arab oil countries, as the culprits responsible for this economic damage.

This is happening at a time when the oil countries are spending enormous sums on the third world aid and development programs as an assistance on their part to deal with the devastating march of the inflation in the industrial countries.

Despite all this, we find that the western media are engaged in a large-scale campaign of fabrications aimed at holding the oil countries responsible for inflation.

The other face of the western political game seeking to undermine the oil countries is embodied in the act of stockpiling to which His Excellency Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani referred in his interview with the TIME magazine. Dr Muhammad 'Abduh Yamani, the minister of information, clarified the true nature of this act when he stated that the stockpiling plays a major role in raising prices and in making the supply larger than the demand [sic].

Background of Oil Stockpiling

A profound examination of the true nature of the stockpiling operation reveals that it is not just a commercial operation in which some companies or governments are engaged but that it is an operation with serious political and economic dimensions that seek primarily to deny the oil countries the use of their basic resource in a political manner that enables them to achieve their lost rights in the Palestinian issue as a result of the U.S. policy's alignment with Israel.

Oil stockpiling secures for the industrial countries quantities of oil sufficient for a year's consumption. This reserve, which is stockpiled in the stores of the western countries and of the oil companies, is renewed and is increasing year after year and this fact denies the oil countries the possibility of using their oil as a weapon serving their interests.

The importance of oil stockpiling emerged in the wake of the 1973 war and of the oil embargo imposed by the Arab countries collectively on oil production. This embargo had a strong and effective influence on ending the combat situation in the interest of the Arabs politically.

Moreover, oil stockpiling has its actual harmful consequences to the European countries, especially the European countries that produce no oil, and not to the United States, because stockpiling leads to increased inflation and this is something with which some European countries cannot deal whereas the United States can deal with it, and very effectively.

Dimensions of Crisis

A study by the U.S. Senate (Technology Evaluation Commission) states that it is unlikely that there will be a big rise in the world oil production from the traditional sources in the remaining part of the current (20th) century.

The study points out that Iraq and the UAE form two main sources of the likely additional oil supplies.

The study also notes that despite the possibility of increasing the world oil production, perhaps by 32 percent, in the 1990's, it is not likely that there will be an essential increase because the countries which must contribute to this increase, such as the OPEC members and Mexico, have very little financial and political incentive to do so. Moreover, the attempt to increase production may face several practical and political problems.

Even though this study underlines the political and economic factors in the world oil production, it presumes continued stability in the OPEC and Middle East areas which it views as the source of one-half the world's oil supplies during the remaining part of this century and afterwards.

This study warns the U.S. policy makers that the United States cannot expect to increase its oil imports beyond the current levels and that it will face further stiff competition for the world's oil supplies even if it reduces its oil imports.

Maurice Ural [presumably meaning Udall], the chairman of the Technology Evaluation Commission, points out that the only way to reduce the U.S. reliance on oil in an adequate manner and in a short time lies in exerting serious and ceaseless efforts to raise the efficiency and to reduce the waste in the use of oil.

John (Gibbons), the Director [sic] of the said commission, says that for the world to be able to supply its industrial and economic growth with fuel, we must continue to exert efforts to find the means that enable the human innovativeness to create the [alternative] resources through technological progress.

This study, concerned with the aspects pertaining to the world oil supplies, expects that the free world oil production may begin to decline in the early 1980's, dropping from 52 million barrels daily in 1979 to 47 million barrels daily in 1985 and to 40 million barrels daily in the year 2000.

What makes the situation more complex is the possibility that the socialist bloc will become a complete importer of oil from the non-socialist world.

In this respect, the study adopts the controversial CIA position that the net imports of the socialist bloc may rise to 1.9 million barrels daily in 1985 and 2 million barrels daily in the year 2000.

The study of the Technology Evaluation Commission of the U.S. Senate and U.S. Congress [sic] raises questions regarding the CIA analyses and recommends the need for further analyses.

The study draws a gloomy picture of the availability of oil in future years. However, it still finds reasons to expect a moderate increase in the world oil production in the next two decades [and to believe] that oil supplies from the non-socialist world will rise to 60 million barrels daily in 1985 and 62 million barrels daily in the year 2000.

The study distributes its expectations of oil supplies from the non-socialist world as follows:

(Million Barrels Per Day)

	1979	1985	2000
Developing countries	14.9	13-15.5	7.5-13
OPEC	21.14	28.5-35	27-37
Less developed countries outside OPEC	5.1	7.5-9	7.5-11.5
Net trade of socialist bloc	1	-1 to -1.9	-2
Total	52.4	47-62	40-62

The study shows that no significant increase in production will occur in the non-socialist industrial countries and that the production may even drop to 50 percent in the year 2000. There is also the possibility that the U.S. production will drop below its current level of 10.2 million barrels daily to 7.2-8.5 million barrels daily by the year 1985 and 4-7 million barrels daily by the year 2000, keeping in mind that the higher estimate for the year 2000 (namely 7 million barrels daily) relies on adding one billion barrels annually to the proven reserves and on employing improved drilling methods.

As for the north sea, the study believes that its production will peak in the mid-1980's and is likely to drop by the year 2000 due to a drop in the reserve. This production is estimated at 2.8-4 million barrels daily in 1985 and 1.7-3 million barrels daily in the year 2000 on the basis of the industrial and government plans.

As for Canada's production, it is unlikely that it will increase. It will experience a drop before the mid-1990's. The Canadian oil production levels are estimated at 1.6-1.8 million barrels daily in 1985 and 1-2 million barrels daily in the year 2000.

The study also believes that there is a slight chance of an essential increase in oil supplies from outside the OPEC areas. In this regard, the latest theories counter that the rising international oil prices will be an incentive for major

oil discoveries in areas have not yet been efficiently explored for this resource and predict an increase in oil production in the developing countries that are not OPEC members. This increase in production may be large, raising the total production of these countries from 5.1 million barrels daily in 1979 to 7.5-9 million barrels daily in 1985 and to 7.5-11.5 million barrels daily in the year 2000.

Moreover, Mexico's production may rise to 5.5 million barrels daily by the year 2000 and may equal one-half the production of the less developed non-OPEC countries. A slight increase in production may occur in Egypt, Brazil, Argentina and Peru. Thus, the total current production of 25 developing non-OPEC countries, amounting to 5 million barrels daily, will be maintained.

The study concludes by saying that this makes the OPEC the main source of the oil supply needed. However, it is not likely that the future OPEC production will change significantly from the 1979 production level of 31.4 million barrels daily. Moreover, the production in 1985 and in the year 2000 may drop below the level of 1979. The study estimates the likely OPEC production at 28.5 million barrels daily in 1985 and at 27-37 million barrels daily in the year 2000.

The study underlines the importance of the Arab oil producing countries and points out that the domination of the Arab members of OPEC and of the Arab Gulf will continue, with the exception of Iran. The study also points out that certain Arab members of OPEC, namely the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Kuwait and Iraq, possess enough reserves to cause more than a marginal increase in production.

The study believes that these five countries can raise their production from 20.8 million barrels daily in 1979 to 24.5 million barrels daily in 1985 and to 27 million barrels daily in the year 2000. The study adds that the governmental restrictions imposed on production in Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Kuwait and Iran will, in case they continue to exist, limit OPEC production to no more than 32 million barrels daily in the year 2000, i.e., to 5 million barrels daily less than the higher production estimates cited by this study. In light of the interest expressed by the kingdom's officials in preserving energy supplies, the study concludes that in reliance on these facts, it is expected that the Saudi crude oil production in 1985 will range between 8.5 million barrels daily, which is the official ceiling set in 1978, and 10.5 million barrels daily (nearly the highest current production rate). In the year 2000, the Saudi Crude oil production is estimated at 8.5-12 million barrels daily. This quantity may rise by 800,000 barrels daily from Saudi Arabia's share from the divided [neutral] zone.

The study, prepared before the Iraq-Iran war, notes that there is a big question mark regarding the future oil production in Iraq. The geological factors, especially the large number of installations [sic] in which no drilling has been carried out yet, create the expectation that the production rate will rise above the 1979 level. However, the study believes that what justifies the more conservative production levels are the political considerations. On the one hand, the Iraqi minister of oil is said to have expressed his favoring production at a 60-percent capacity at a time when the Iraqi government is seeking to strengthen its relations with the other countries of the developing world. It is believed, therefore, that the Iraqi government will maintain its production level and may

even raise it to use the produced oil and the revenues it generates to bolster this direction in its relations. Consequently, the study estimates that the Iraqi production will range from 2.7-4.5 million barrels daily in 1985 and 3-5 million barrels daily in the year 2000.

The study notes that the unrest in Iran have made it difficult to speculate. However, it estimates the production levels at 3-4 million barrels daily in the year 2000, assuming that Iran restores its political stability.

The study puts the UAE production at 1.9 million barrels daily, which is the current production level, at 2.5 million barrels daily in 1985 and at 3 million barrels daily in the year 2000. These rates may be possible in case the governmental restrictions are lifted. It also predicts that the Kuwaiti production will range from the current production ceiling of 1.5 million barrels daily and a possible production of 2 million barrels daily in the remaining part of this century. Kuwait will also pump 400,000 more barrels daily constituting its share from the divided zone.

The study expects the remaining eight OPEC countries to produce between 9.5 and 10.5 million barrels daily in 1985 and 8-10 million barrels daily in the year 2000, compared to 10.6 million barrels daily in 1979. The study also points out that these countries are currently producing at nearly their maximum capacity. It also notes that with the exception of the Libyan Jamahiriya, the current reserves in the remaining OPEC countries are not enough to raise the current production levels in the year 2000. Even though only Venezuela among these countries possesses enough capabilities to raise its production from the unconventional reserves, this is not likely to change the picture until after the year 2000.

All the expectations included in the study of the U.S. Senate Technology Evaluation Commission preceded the Iraq-Iran war and have not taken into consideration the situation arising as a result of this war. On the other hand, the study has also failed to take into consideration the recent oil price hikes decided upon by the OPEC in its latest meeting in Bali, Indonesia. Despite the western propaganda clamor preceding and following the OPEC Ministerial Council meeting in Bali, this conference set a new hike in oil prices to counter the plots of the black market, known as the Rotterdam free market. The new hike has aroused the wrath of some European countries, and especially of the United States, even though the FINANCIAL TIMES has noted that the latest OPEC decisions to raise the price of oil by 4 dollars per barrel are considered reasonable in light of the current inflation in the European and U.S. economy and in light of the astronomical increase in the prices of the European goods exported to the third world countries, including the OPEC countries which produce the oil.

The OPEC countries also agreed to adopt the policy of periodic oil pricing in light of the prevalent international economic conditions.

The obvious and declared purpose of the OPEC decision is [to point out that] some western countries, especially the United States, have vast oil stockpiles, that this oil is not being used, that the stockpiles are even being increased and that this is capable of causing harmful consequences to the oil reserves of the oil

producing countries, especially the Arab members of the OPEC, while serving the interest of the United States and of some European countries.

Therefore, this [stockpiling] leads to increased prices in the black market and the European countries use this increase to exert pressure on the producing countries to raise their production when there is no justification to raise production, unless to serve the companies which reap vast profits and the countries which use oil as a political weapon against its producers. The [alternative] solutions are available and are not very complex, the most accessible being the solution of drawing from the oil stockpiles so that the demand for the oil supply may not rise and, consequently, may not raise the oil price. There is no doubt that such a step will reduce the sharp price increases at present and will provide the opportunity for stability in oil production, even though it will not end the crisis completely.

All talk of the energy crisis which is preoccupying the minds of all heads of state and governments. Yet, nobody has formulated the solutions necessary to overcome the current crisis.

Excessive Use of Oil

The industrial countries' oil consumption is very excessive and it has become necessary to take effective steps to curtail the use of oil and to regulate its consumption. From 1974 and until now, the European countries have taken several steps to save energy, to curtail their oil imports, to make more supplies available and to develop the sources of energy available to their territories to compensate for the oil production capacities of the OPEC countries.

But the rulers of these countries admit that these steps are still inadequate to deal with and avoid the danger of oil shortage. They also know that solving the problem of oil supplies must be inevitably achieved through increased prices. However, we notice that during every OPEC meeting, the industrial countries exert utmost efforts to prevent any oil price increase that may correct the situation.

This is why there is a deep gap between the new facts which impose themselves in the energy field on the one hand and the policies followed by the countries concerned on the other hand.

This gap is due to the fact that the mind and mentality of the westerners is still affected by the numerous years during which oil was available at low prices that made people use it in all sectors and spheres, such as heating, electricity, industry, transportation and the chemical industries. The reason is that the western countries concerned are preoccupied with political, economic and living affairs and problems, such as inflation, unemployment, trade balances and political and election affairs. This is why they are reluctant to project an idea or adopt a decision that doesn't enjoy public support, especially on an important issue such as the issue of oil prices which has been depicted to people as being the sole cause of the economic hardships experienced by the west since 1974.

The third reason for the western countries' reluctance to draw up a clear policy for energy prices is that such a step requires reexamination and reevaluation of the relations between the oil consuming countries and the oil exporting countries which are still struggling on the path toward economic growth. These relations must go beyond the system of the conventional political and economic relations established between the rich and poor countries on the basis of force. It is natural that the industrial countries will continue to cling to their privileges, to follow a short-term policy in the energy sphere and to ignore any decision that must be adopted at present to follow a long-term policy.

The obstacles in the face of the adoption of a clear and well-organized long-range policy in the field of energy are political, economic, psychological and financial obstacles. But it seems clear that it is better to accept an inevitable and gradual increase in oil prices than to have the industrial countries exposed to an oil crisis in which the stronger and the richer will be able to monopolize the available oil, which has begun to diminish rapidly, through the relations of force that had prevailed between the producing and the consuming countries. The raising of prices has become more and more the fundamental means for any policy that seeks to regulate and distribute energy in the medium and long range so that the world may be supplied with the quantities and sources of energy that it needs. The policy of cooperation is a must for the industrial countries which will need for a long time the oil and gas of the OPEC which supplies at present nearly 84 percent of the world's oil exports and controls 68 percent of the world's oil reserves and no less than 39 percent of the world's gas reserves. This cooperation is also a must for the OPEC member countries that need to develop and expand their commercial, financial and economic relations with the industrial countries in order to develop themselves and improve their economy. We notice that the energy crisis, which means shifting from the oil produced by the OPEC countries to other sources, is more serious to the OPEC countries than it is to the industrial countries. The industrial countries will use unconventional means to drill out oil or will use nuclear energy sources whereas the OPEC countries will have to look for an alternative to their basic or sole resources, which makes matters much more difficult for them. What is more, the oil exporting countries consume a considerable part of their oil. These countries are now exerting efforts to develop other types of energy, such as solar energy.

This policy of cooperation must also be joined by the developing countries that produce no oil. These countries do not possess the adequate financial resources or the technical expertise required to utilize and develop their energy producing natural resources or to import the energy they need.

The new problems posed by oil supplies and by oil prices require new solutions, meaning that these solutions cannot be restricted to stockpiling energy and to developing the utilization of the national resources of the industrial countries. So far, the industrial countries have followed nothing but the policy of apprehension and suspicion and the policy of division toward the OPEC countries. This crisis with its international dimensions calls for a solution that emanates from negotiation and cooperation among all the countries concerned, especially the countries controlling the present oil resources and the countries controlling the capital and the technology needed to exploit the available oil resources.

At the level of the relations between the OPEC countries and the industrial countries, some well-informed circles suggest that the cooperation among these countries emanate from the following basic principles:

1. Agreement by the OPEC countries to continue to supply oil to the industrial countries even under circumstances when the production rates exceed the financial needs of the OPEC countries which are trying to preserve their oil resources for as long as possible.
2. Acceptance by the industrial countries of the principle of the gradual hiking of oil and gas prices so that the process of looking for alternative energy sources may become profitable commercially.
3. Participation by the OPEC countries possessing high financial surpluses in the energy exploitation operations in the countries that need capital.
4. Participation by the industrial countries to intensifying the oil prospecting operations, in establishing other energy producing projects and in the efforts to develop the economy of the oil exporting countries.
5. Including the OPEC as an active member in all the negotiations and decisions made on the issue of international energy. At the legislative and practical level, the spheres of cooperation between the exporting and consuming countries are numerous, such as negotiations between the OPEC, the International Energy Agency and the [UN] Commerce and Trade Development Organization. As a start, an agency combining the producing and the consuming countries must be established and a joint fund must be set up to finance energy-related projects. Bilateral and multi-lateral agreements must also be concluded to search for alternative energy sources.

The developments in recent years, especially within the framework of the conference on international economic cooperation, have proven that the fundamental obstacles hampering cooperation between countries do not lie in determining the means and spheres of this cooperation but in the reluctance and failure of the major industrial countries to realize this cooperation. But perhaps the recent political developments in Iran will convince the industrial countries to change their position and will force them to follow a policy of cooperation and aid with the exporting countries so that they may be able to deal with the crisis that has begun to emerge and that will threaten the world in the 1980's.

Struggle Between United States and Europe

The oil crisis is a production crisis, a price crisis and a consumption crisis. The oil market is not a national market but an international market, meaning that it is difficult to deal with the crisis [individually]. Rather, efforts on the part of each state to deal with the energy crisis individually complicate the problem further. This is what happened recently as a result of the U.S.-French disagreement on how to deal with the crisis. The U.S.-French disagreement, reflected in the unsuccessful visit made by the French minister of foreign affairs to Washington during which the minister had only a 15-minute meeting with President Carter, is due to the divergent views on how the west should deal with the energy crisis.

France believes that all the major industrial countries must organize the means to deal with the crisis, else they will all march toward the catastrophe. This is not the view of President Carter who censures France for its position which doesn't support the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty. But regardless of the political aspect of the issue, the western countries are not so far in a position that enables them to agree on a united confrontation of the oil crisis. This applies primarily to the United States.

The United States, in the opinion of the Europeans, is not only the biggest energy consumer but also the biggest energy waster. Since the 1973 war and the five-fold increase in prices, the United States has increased its consumption and reduced its production. While it imported 30 percent of its oil and refined oil byproducts in 1973, it now imports 50 percent of these needs. These U.S. purchases are more than twice the total French consumption, more than 1.5 times the Japanese consumption and more than one-half the purchases of the group of nine European states [EEC]. What the United States consumes exceeds the speed of what the producing countries produce [sic].

Thus, it is the opinion of the Europeans, especially of the French, that regardless of how much the other industrial countries save, their savings will not prevent the crisis from deteriorating as long as the United States follows its special policy that serves its [special] interests.

If the increase in consumption continues, the prices will continue to rise without the availability of enough production to meet the needs of all. Increased consumption in any country whatsoever affects the world market, not to mention the United States whose Energy Department resorted recently to subsidizing the importing companies at the rate of 5 dollars per barrel so that these companies may continue to purchase at the same high prices. This means that what the United States has decided upon, even if only temporarily, is to entrench the high price and to have the state treasury shoulder the price increases and differentials. The problem between the United States and Europe is a problem of the absence of a united visualization. This affects the unity of the west. The United States can bring its oil policy to the point of doing away partially, perhaps even completely, with imports because it is an oil country which possesses big reserves in Texas, California and in more than 12 other states that have not been exploited yet. Thus, the United States will not experience a severe problem in the long run because it can curtail imports and increase production. This is what the other European partners are asking it to do.

For nearly 2 years, France has been trying to make its EEC partners adopt a unified European policy vis-a-vis the world energy crisis, having failed to persuade the U.S. administration to put a stop to the oil waste in the vast consumer U.S. market. France's call to its partners continued to reverberate in a desert and each of the nine governments [in the EEC] continued to follow its special energy policy until the Iraq-Iran war put a stop to the Iranian oil production. The west then began to feel the oil squeeze which could threaten the growth of its economies. At this point, consultations started among governments of the western allies on the one hand and between these allies and the oil producing countries on the other hand in an endeavor to discuss the energy crisis. Some of the Arab oil producing countries

agreed at the outset of the Iranian political crisis to raise their daily oil production rates to make up for the interrupted Iranian production.

Waste of Oil

But the continued wasting of oil in the western markets, especially in the U.S. consumer market, made the producing countries wonder about the benefits of their defense of the west when Washington ignores the true nature of the world oil crisis and fails to adopt any step that heralds a curtailed oil consumption.

This particular crisis is what motivated French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing to bring up the issue of the oil crisis with President Carter during the quadri-lateral summit which the leaders of the United States, Germany, Britain and France held in Guadalupe and what made him urge President Carter to start serious negotiations with his allies to adopt a unified western policy toward the energy crisis. The U.S. president promised to do so and expressed understanding toward West Europe's apprehensions over the U.S. market's consumption of one-third of the entire world consumption. The U.S. president then instructed his departments to initiate a plan to reduce the domestic U.S. consumption. But the two bills which were presented to the Congress with the aim of reducing the U.S. consumption and of dealing with the world energy crisis were rejected by this Congress, or at least the Congress approved an amended bill totally remote from the White House plan.

The rejection of this bill by the Congress led to Carter's political decline. However, France and the European countries continued to hope for vigilant U.S. steps to curtail the waste of oil until the European capitals raised a furor over the decision of the oil companies [words apparently missing] the oil producing countries to lower their daily production rate. This decision enabled the oil black market in Rotterdam, where the agents of some western governments flock to purchase the abundant oil in order to increase the stockpiles of these governments, to grow and prosper. But the European countries wanted to curtail the effects of this black market on their economies and decided at the Strasbourg meeting to expose the secret transactions that have been going on in Rotterdam. From now on, the name of the purchasing company, the name of the seller and the prices posted will be made public. This decision is likely to curb the Rotterdam black market activity because the companies that engage in these transactions in the free markets will not sacrifice their reputation in the industrial and financial circles. However, this decision will not be implemented in an effective and definite manner unless approved by Japan and the United States. Transfer of the Rotterdam market to another part of the world must also be prevented. The transactions and the bargaining that has become difficult [to conduct] in Rotterdam can be shifted to Genoa in Italy or to the Caribbean. It is enough to secure a few telephone and telex lines to make commercial transactions possible in all parts of the world. However, the United States has not responded favorably to this decision and has decided to subsidize 5 dollars for every barrel purchased by the oil companies from the black market. This means that the U.S. administration has decided openly and legally to encourage the U.S. monopoly of the petroleum black market. Upon returning from his visit to the United States, Francois-Poncet, the French minister of foreign affairs, faced the wrath of the parties and the parliament because he had been received by Carter

for only 15 minutes. On the eve of the elections for the United European Parliament, the French parties considered the U.S. behavior an insult to France and to Europe. Naturally, the French government tried to downplay the U.S.-French conflict and confrontation. The [French] minister of industry remained in Washington for 3 days during which he was able to obtain an apolitical oil position from the U.S. secretary of state.

However, this did not stop the waste and Washington has not backed down on its decision, despite the industrial countries summit meeting in Tokyo to discuss the energy crisis. Twenty heads of state and the leaders of Japan and West Europe are taking part in this meeting. Perhaps one of the benefits of the U.S. decision is that it has unified the European position toward the crisis and has made the EEC go to Tokyo with common demands, common plans and common interests. Prior to the decision taken by President Carter, the nine European countries were not able to unite their position toward the U.S. leadership because of the direct and organic bond, insofar as interests are concerned, of some European capitals with the U.S. leadership. This applies to Britain, the Netherlands and West Germany in particular.

Fundamental changes have taken place in the previous facts concerning the oil situation. The demand has exceeded the supply because of the U.S. energy policy and a shortage has developed in the world oil situation due to the instability in Iran. This is why it has become possible for the nine EEC countries to reach a common understanding and why it has become impossible to surmount the difficult oil crisis except through a constructive dialogue between the consuming countries and the producing countries and through diversification of the sources of energy.

The EEC countries have found out that they cannot confront the U.S. and Japanese position unless they enter the Tokyo meeting with a clear and unified position. This is why these countries have tried to reach a unified position under the shadow of French fears that the west has not yet realized the true nature and dimensions of the oil crisis. Only the crisis is capable of making the EEC countries meet on a common position in spheres where NATO had caused these countries to be in conflict and in competition with each other. The impact of the oil crisis is not the same in all the European countries. France is the country most enthusiastic for fundamental solutions and for effective steps insofar as gas and oil rationing is concerned because France, along with Italy, is the only country that has no national energy-producing resources in its territories. This is why France is one of the countries relying most strongly on nuclear energy. As for the other European countries, their interests vary and differ according to the natural factors in each country.

Britain: The British government approves tacitly the rise in oil prices because of the gas and oil resources it possesses in the North Sea. This puts it in a distinctive position among its European competitors. The London government has declared that Britain has the priority to exploiting the North Sea oil wells and that increasing Britain's oil exports to the EEC countries is completely out of the question.

Germany: It will not be affected strongly by the crisis caused by increased prices because it is rich with its coal mines in the Ruhr area and because it has many rich gas wells. Moreover, Germany supports a tangible increase in oil prices which will constitute the fundamental incentive for its economy [sic].

The Netherlands: It lives under the same situation as Germany. It is certain of the presence of abundant supplies of natural gas in its territories in (Khruning) area and it doesn't fear the increase in oil prices, provided that oil continues to be as available as it has been in the past.

Italy and France: They are the only two countries which will suffer from the crisis, from the rise in oil prices and from the unavailability of oil in as abundant quantities as in the past. This aspect is fundamental in channeling the foreign policy adopted by the two countries toward the oil producing countries and toward the United States.

United States: It is still acting as if it were independent of the world situation and of its allies in particular. The latest U.S. decision underlines this U.S. selfishness. However, this doesn't deflect the impact of the oil crisis from the U.S. consumer himself. Waiting in line for hours before gas stations is nothing but a reflection of where the crisis can lead. The oil issue has shown that the U.S. Energy Department has proven its failure in dealing with the international challenges and the failure of the energy saving plan drawn up by the Energy Department and by Energy Secretary James Schlesinger. This is in addition to the failure of the U.S. citizen to cooperate in saving energy. This failure scares the U.S. energy experts who feel that the U.S. administration is incapable of formulating an effective and positive program to deal with the world crisis, even though all the estimates show that the world oil production volume will inevitably increase, contrary to the common belief. However, any international event is likely to threaten the stability of oil production and, consequently, to restore the crisis to its serious current level. Despite the conflicting solutions offered by the conferences held in succession in Strasbourg, Geneva and Tokyo, the real solution to the crisis will continue to be dependent upon a serious and positive understanding between the producing countries and the consuming countries--an understanding reached through a constructive dialogue based on equality and on each side's understanding of the interests, rights and aspirations of the other side, especially those of the owners of the natural resources.

Documentary Appendix

[1973]

6 October: The start of the war between Israel and the Arabs.

7 October: Iraq nationalized the Exxon and Mobil shares in al-Basrah Oil Company.

16 October: OAPEC met in Kuwait and decided unanimously to raise the price per barrel of crude by 70 percent.

17 October: During the OPEC [sic] meeting, Saudi Arabia, Abu Dhabi, Iraq, Qatar, Bahrain, Algeria, Libya, Egypt and Syria decided to reduce their crude oil production first by four percent and then by 10 percent. On 4 November, oil production dropped by 25 percent.

19 October: Libya decided to raise the price of its crude to 8.925 dollars per barrel.

21 October: Iraq decided to nationalize the Netherlands (Shell Company) share in al-Basrah Oil Company and adopted a decision boycotting the Netherlands.

[Day indistinct] December: The Iranians sold quantities of oil in the free market at a price of 17.5 dollars per barrel.

22-23 December: During their meeting in Tehran, the Gulf countries raised the price of the Saudi light crude from 5.032 dollars to 11.641 dollars per barrel as of the beginning of January 1974.

24-25 December: The OPEC countries raised their production by 10 percent.

1974

8-11 February: The Washington Energy Conference.

25-26 February: Formation of a group of industrial countries, excluding France, to coordinate on energy issues.

13 March: The OPEC countries meeting in Tripoli decided to lift the oil embargo against the United States.

7-8 April: The OPEC countries meeting in Geneva decided to establish a special fund to aid the third world countries.

14 May: Kuwait took control of 60 percent of the Kuwaiti Oil Company which had been controlled by the British Petroleum Company and the Gulf Oil Company.

15-17 June: The meeting of the oil producing countries in Quito did not result in any hike in crude oil prices. The meeting was content to raise the tax paid by the companies to the governments of the oil producing countries from 12.5 percent to 14.5 percent.

12-13 September: The OPEC countries met in Vienna and raised the prices of the oil produced by foreign concessions. The meeting also raised the profits tax from 55 percent to 65.75 percent. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia did not approve this decision until November in Abu Dhabi.

15 December: During the Vienna meeting, the exporting countries decided to freeze the prices until 30 September 1975.

1975

February: Libya and Abu Dhabi reduced their crude oil prices.

5-7 February: Meeting of the 17 member countries of the International Energy Agency in Paris to set up an international energy conference.

7-15 April: The conference meeting in Paris and the failure of the preparatory meeting of 10 countries--namely Saudi Arabia, Algeria, Brazil, Japan, India, Iran, the United States, Venezuela and Zaire--to discuss the EEC energy problems.

5 June: Suez Canal reopened.

9-10 June: The OPEC countries meeting in Libreville decided to set the oil prices by the special drawing rights instead of the dollar but the decision was not carried out.

11 June: Britain became an oil producer after beginning exploitation of the Hamilton wells.

29 August: Venezuela nationalized the oil industries, with the decision going into effect on 1 January 1976.

24-27 September: The OPEC countries meeting in Vienna decided to raise oil prices by 10 percent as of the beginning of October.

17-19 November: A special fund established to aid the third world countries with a budget [presumably meaning a capital] of one billion dollars.

16-19 December: The conference for dialogue between the north and the south meets in Paris to exert efforts for international economic cooperation.

22 December: President Ford signed the energy saving document setting crude oil prices in the United States for a period of 40 months.

1976

24-30 January: The member countries of the International Energy Agency decided to draw up a cooperation program (and to exert efforts to limit the price to 7 dollars).

27-28 May: The OPEC countries meeting in Bali decided to freeze oil prices.

September: 5 European oil companies asked the EEC Commission to watch the Rotterdam free market.

15-17 December: The OPEC countries meeting in Doha could not agree on setting the prices in 11 member countries which had decided to raise their oil prices by 10 percent, in addition to five percent as of the beginning of July. Saudi Arabia and the UAE were content to raise their prices by five percent as of 1 June.

1977

20 April: President Carter declared his policy on the energy program.

30 May: The dialogue between the north and south ends without achieving any positive results.

20 June: The Alaska oil pipeline inaugurated.

12-13 July: Reunification of the OPEC oil prices during the Stockholm meeting. Saudi Arabia and the UAE raised their prices by five percent while the other 11 member countries refrained from raising their prices anew.

5-6 October: The International Energy Agency decided to limit its 1985 oil imports from the OPEC to 26 million barrels daily.

20-21 December: Oil prices remained frozen due to the lack of agreement among the member countries on this issue.

1978

March: Mexico's oil reserves reassessed.

June: OPEC meeting in Geneva freezes oil prices till year's end.

30 August: France adopts a more liberal oil policy.

October: Start of unrest in the oil wells area of Khuzestan, Iran.

15 October: U.S. Congress approves Carter's energy program after introducing fundamental amendments into it.

16 December: OPEC ministers meet in Abu Dhabi to raise oil prices from 12.70 dollars to 14.54 dollars [per barrel] as of the beginning of 1979.

26 October: Oil production in Iran brought to a stop.

1979

16 January: Shah's regime in Iran overthrown.

14 February: Abu Dhabi and Qatar raise light crude oil prices by 7.7 percent.

14-16 February: President Carter visits Mexico.

March: Several countries raised their [oil] prices and others, such as Libya, reduced their production.

5 March: OPEC countries meeting in Vienna delays raising oil prices for 6 months.

26 March: Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty signed.

April: Prices raised again.

5 April: President Carter submits plan to raise prices of oil produced in United States gradually to curtail the enormous profits made by the companies.

May: Chaotic rise in oil prices.

14 May: During meeting of third world countries in Manila, Latin American countries opposed increased oil prices and attacked the producing countries.

22 May: The International Energy Agency underlined the energy saving program and called for encouraging reliance on coal and nuclear power.

24 May: The price of Algerian oil rose to more than 20 dollars per barrel.

31 May: Disagreement between the United States and Europe over purchase of oil from the free market at astronomical prices.

18 June: EEC energy ministers meet in Luxembourg.

20-21 June: Strasbourg conference approved Luxembourg conference resolutions calling for curtailing oil energy imports and for developing alternative energy sources.

26 June: OPEC countries meeting in Geneva decided to raise oil prices to 18 and 23 dollars per barrel.

29 June: Western industrial countries meet in Tokyo to discuss energy crisis.

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PRINCE FAHD'S ROLE IN ENGINEERING SAUDI POLICY UNDERLINED

Jiddah 'UKAZ in Arabic 29 Jan 81 p 3

[Article by Khalid Muhammad Bashuwayyah: "Prince Fahd and Saudi Policy Engineering; Kingdom: Positions and Purported Stands That Affect Events and Interact With Nation's Causes"]

[Text] If it is easy for the political observer to define the goals of the policy which the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia follows in the sphere of international relations because of the clarity of this policy, of its reliance on direct frankness in making decisions and taking positions and because of the landmarks that outline the path of Saudi diplomacy, it is difficult to keep up with this vital flow of energy which reaches the limits of genius and which reflects to the political observer the (presence of numerous reservoirs) of political offering based on foresight, careful action and profound management. Between the ease and the difficulty and between the role performed by the diplomacy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the need for the models of this diplomacy on the Arab, Islamic and international arena--considering the numerous segments and directions affecting the procession of total Islamic unity--between this and that fall the features of this analysis which relies on realistic proofs and practical proofs, whether in terms of the atmosphere engulfing the decision making, in terms of the ideological weight which the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia represents to the Islamic world or in terms of the Saudi policy's role in arranging for international resolutions in the political and economic spheres. There is no doubt that the rationality of the analysis emanates fundamentally from complete familiarity with the political process which is carried out persistently by the Saudi diplomacy. There are evident positions and there are stated positions which determine for the observer the bases on which he can rely, (even though this involves a vast sea of information and decisions). Naturally, the circumstances that form the framework for the kingdom's political movement vary with the various efforts exerted by the kingdom. There is the vast ideological sphere that includes the entire Islamic world and there is the part determined by the Arab framework and by all the issues and problems projected on the Arab arena, the most important being the issue of the Arab-Israeli conflict. There is also the part, or parts, that is connected with the international situation and with what the kingdom's policy can do to create numerous positions and to open more channels that pour into the river of world peace and stability. This peace and this stability have been the preoccupation of all the international political axes, called the major powers or the forces supporting the major powers, since the development witnessed by the international relations in the wake of World War II and with the emergence of new

theories in this regard, some calling for the multiplicity of international forces, (even though they may be confined to the sector triumphing in World War II), and some trying to realize a political renaissance in order to establish a balance with the groups projected fundamentally on the international arena [sic].

Elements of Analysis

It is my conviction that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, with its considerable effort and with its evident political activity at the Arab, Islamic and international levels, is only putting more aspects of its efforts in the service of vital issues pertaining to peace and stability, of realizing security goals and of improving life with all the means. So that this analysis may remain confined to its time and place frameworks and may be tied to its current outlets which accompany the convocation of the third Islamic summit, I can define the basic elements in the following points:

1. The foundations of the Saudi policy were laid down 50 years ago when the late King 'Abd-al-'Aziz united the country and set, in light of the circumstances that accompanied the unification, the rules which he followed in the kingdom's relations, whether with its Arab neighbors, with the entire Arab nation, with the issues raised in his time, especially the Palestine issue, or with the entire world and its conflicting forces. It is worth noting here that the founding leader was one of the first Arab leaders to contribute practical efforts toward entrenching the concept of international neutrality. Despite his living with World War II, no part of the country's borders was touched, contrary to many of the area's countries which turned into arenas for the struggle between the allies and the axis, as the historical facts tell us.

Naturally, a policy that has been constant for 50 years must be characterized by rationality, deliberation and a careful approach toward events. Leaderships have succeeded each other in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia voluntarily since the time of the late King 'Abd-al-'Aziz. This voluntary succession has strengthened the bases of the political structure, thus allowing movement to be based on a firm foundation fundamentally and providing the opportunity for effective contribution through interaction with the Arab and Islamic nation's issues and with many of the international issues.

Second: The events being undergone by the Islamic arena generally and by the Arab arena in particular have confirmed to observers the strong intuition enjoyed by the leaders of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia from the time of the late King 'Abd-al-'Aziz when he insisted on the need to realize the Palestinian people's rights as the basis for the area's peace in his meeting with Roosevelt in the middle of the Red Sea, to the time of the late King Faysal who stressed that the restoration of Jerusalem and securing the Palestinian right constitute the real touchstone for any stability, not only in the area but in the modern world, and to the time when Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd-al-'Aziz projected, on the instructions of His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd-al-'Aziz, the formulas by which the Arabs and the Muslims must abide to get out of the labyrinths imposed on the Islamic area, some of which have reached the extent of occupation by force. So, it can be said that the Saudi leadership's interaction with the surrounding events and this leadership's

adoption of well-studied, careful and realistic positions, (along with its constant and effective momentum and giving), draw up the future steps for the Islamic unity generally.

Third: There is no doubt that the speech which His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd-al-'Aziz addressed to the Islamic nation's leaders and peoples and to the various international forces and which was read by His Highness Prince Fahd in the yard of the Holy Mosque on the afternoon of Sunday, 25 January, is considered a historic document that contains all the directions and positions by which the Saudi policy abides in its foreign dealings. The speech also underlines that the source of decision making which the kingdom is eager to preserve derives its strength and its constructive spirit from the concepts and contents of the Islamic faith and its legislation. Moreover, Saudi Arabia's address which His Highness Prince Fahd delivered to the second session of the Islamic summit which convened in al-Ta'if on Monday, 20 Rabi' al-Awwal [corresponding to 26 January 1981], is extremely significant and can further clarify the concepts on which rely the kingdom's positions, visualization of the events and formulas for solving comprehensively the problems existing on the Islamic and international arenas.

These are the three bases that map the course of this analysis. They also represent the positional structure [sic] of the kingdom's policy from which emanate the interactions with the events and developments in accordance with well-studied criteria that uphold the fundamental and constant premises with which the Saudi diplomacy is concerned.

Leader's Address and Motives of Islamic Renaissance

When the political observer underlines the rapid shots fired by the Saudi diplomatic movement, it is because this is a tangible fact that interacts with the kingdom's positions and its contact with the events and with the factors affecting the political arena. Abidance by the Islamic Shari'a is one of the principles which the late King 'Abd-al-'Aziz was eager to advocate on the Islamic arena. The bond between the Arab and Islamic peoples is one of the results of the Saudi policy from the 1940's to the mid-1950's. There is also the attention which the Saudi diplomacy devoted during the reign of the late King Faysal to entrenching the concepts of solidarity and to making these concepts compatible with the Islamic reality. There is no doubt that the arson in al-Aqsa Mosque in 1969 speeded up this inevitable solidarity which had realized long strides which were able to produce tangible results in the Rabat and Lahore summits. Islamic solidarity as a working plan has become a must for the nation in view of the direct challenges that have begun to threaten the geography [territories] of the Islamic world and that have begun to go even further to undermine the ideological presence of the nation and the nature of the concepts that have defined for a long time this nation's identity among other nations. These challenges are also posed by the development of the positions of aggression surrounding the Islamic world, beginning with the Zionist forces' schemes against the venerable Jerusalem and against all of Palestine, with Afghanistan which is under Soviet occupation and ending with the unstable conditions on the Islamic arena resulting from the direct and indirect intervention of the major powers in the affairs of the Islamic states. This is why the vital stance of the Saudi diplomacy--embodied in defining the comprehensive frameworks for the

Islamic activity, Islamic solidarity, programming the common action, the holy jihad to liberate the land and the sanctities and the political formulas that are constantly projected to unite the Islamic ranks and world--and all the other Saudi efforts have relied on a realistic view which the nation actually needs in order to rebuild the edifice and to correct the courses that have led the Muslims to the conditions under which they now live. This is the thing which His Majesty Khalid ibn 'Abd-al-'Aziz clarified decisively when he stressed that what the Islamic arena is undergoing is a comprehensive awakening that is not aimed against anybody. It is my belief that the Islamic awakening to which His Majesty King Khalid has referred means the positional move in the Islamic visualization of how to deal with events. There is no doubt that an awakening is different from a reaction. The first possesses the quality of continuity after overcoming the engulfing crises whereas the second is embodied in a reaction limited to time and to the causing action itself. This is why his majesty was right when he characterized the nature of the current Islamic movement as an awakening of the Islamic giant that relies on the concepts of the Islamic faith and legislation in dealing with the international society. This awakening is an extremely important necessity imposed on the Islamic states at this particular time as a result of the following reasons--reasons that are considered the motives for the awakening which his majesty the leader stressed in the yard of the Holy Mosque and the institute of the immortal Islamic call:

1. It is indisputable that the intricate issues affecting the Islamic entity are linked to external factors influencing the nation's procession. The foreign powers that try to influence the resolutions and positions of the Islamic states plan constantly for excluding any dealing with the comprehensive concept of Islam as a way for the solidarity of the Muslims and the unity of their decision and position. Therefore, all the projected problems mean not only shaking the Islamic entity but also causing the states subject to foreign influences to depart from the Islamic arena ideologically, as a result of being influenced by the anti-Islamic ideas, including communism, and to depart from this arena geographically [sic] by making them subject to the international alliances that are within the framework of the conflict of the major powers.
2. The most important motives of the current Islamic awakening are those that are connected with the Islamic destiny itself. The shaky political positions taken toward the events surrounding the [Islamic] arena, whether in the form of the violations to which Jerusalem's sanctities are subjected by the Zionists or in the form of the direct undermining of the political units forming the Islamic nation's structure, must inevitably lead to the uprising of the Islamic nation so that this nation may preserve its existence and may maintain its influence and contribution in the international sphere in reliance on the true courses of the Islamic call which is eager for security, stability and peace for the entire world community.
3. The Islamic awakening is a basis for regaining the rights after exposing the positions that tamper with the Islamic world's security and stability. In freedom from alliances and axes, carrying out the holy jihad calls for comprehensive demands which the nation actually needs. It has become evident that solving the Middle East problem is subject to international influences that do not want the peace which the Arabs want but the peace which imposes the Israeli presence, even

when Israel declares its occupation of the venerable Jerusalem legitimate, without any regard for the legitimate Palestinian right. It has also become evident that the major powers try to realize their interests at the expense of the Islamic peoples. This is why the initiative must be in Islamic hands that can manage affairs in the interest of the Islamic existence. What is happening in Afghanistan is as serious as what has happened in Palestine because the schemes to strip away the Islamic geography [territories] find their way to implementation in the absence of the Islamic solidarity and strength which built in past ages the foundations of the strong and vast Islamic state. Naturally, the Islamic awakening is only seeking to build the fences of security and stability for the Islamic family's environment. It is an awakening that refuses to embark on futile conflicts with the major powers which can only end up in tearing apart the Islamic entity. There is no doubt that declaration of the Islamic awakening from the yard of the Holy Mosque signifies deep indications that are connected with the kingdom's role at the Islamic level and with the kingdom's constant diplomatic movement to urge the nation with all its units to overcome the serious situation threatening its existence.

Al-Fahd and Engineering Saudi Policy

It is no wonder that the kingdom's leadership relies on firm bases in carrying on with the political process pertaining to the outside world in a manner that enhances the Saudi role in the international lobbies. Insofar as the Arab and Islamic issues are concerned, the personality of His Highness Prince Fahd and his well-organized intellectual premises that keep up with the nature of events, with their developments and with the means to deal with them are tantamount to an engineering operation that draws the broad lines for the course which the Islamic nation must follow to realize its goals and objectives of security, stability and peace. At the time when Israel declared the Knesset resolution to legitimize its occupation of Jerusalem to the entire world, which had previously decided at the United Nations that Israel must withdraw from the occupied territories and which had stressed the importance of establishment of the independent Palestinian state--at this time, his highness followed this Zionist step with a fatal blow which put the international forces before options whose consequences had to be in the interest of the Arab position relatively and in the interest of the Islamic position comprehensively. His highness declared at the time that the holy jihad has become the only means to liberate the Islamic sanctities in the venerable Jerusalem. The Knesset resolution, regardless of its dimensions, is an expression of the Zionist expansionist policy which has become well known to the Arab nation. There is no doubt that this strong, direct and clear shot by the Saudi diplomacy has caused the Israeli military establishment to lose its senses in the wake of the successive effects of the Islamic position which emanated from the call of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the holy jihad, especially since numerous countries have actually begun to withdraw their embassies from Jerusalem in the wake of the Knesset resolution and of the strong Islamic commitment generally, and the commitment of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in particular. This commitment underlines the need to restore the sanctities in Jerusalem and to enable the Palestinian people to regain their full rights. Here, we must point out the results of the intelligent diplomatic move of His Highness Prince Fahd, embodied in his call for the holy jihad. These results are the following:

First: Employing Knesset Resolution in Interest of Islamic Nation

In the wake of the call for the holy jihad, of the clear Islamic position and of the constant Saudi policy which rejects the Camp David peace formula, numerous states which had embassies in Jerusalem have been eager to move these embassies to Tel Aviv, despite the state of collapse which afflicted the terrorist Menachem Begin after the strong slap which he received in the wake of his scheme against Jerusalem. Naturally, Prince Fahd, with his political awareness and his intellectual foresight, has been able to employ the Knesset resolution on Jerusalem in the interest of the Islamic nation in its entirety and in the interest of the Arab stance opposing the Israeli peace. While the resolution has turned into mere ink on paper in the dossiers of the Israeli entity, the withdrawal of embassies from Jerusalem has become a tangible reality which indicates the closeness of the international positions to the Arab position and its views. Moreover, the consequences of the call for the holy jihad have shaken the Israeli relations with more than one country, especially in the wake of West Europe's movement in the direction of acknowledging the legitimacy of the PLO's representation of the Palestinian people and of the need for the PLO's participation in any peace process in the Middle East.

Second: Reaffirming Rejection of Camp David and of Any Similar Formula

This appears clearly in the international endeavors to find a just solution to the Middle East problem. Despite the conclusion of the Camp David accords, there is an international conviction on the need to find formulas that are more inclined toward the Arab rights and toward solving the issue of Jerusalem.

Naturally, the call for jihad and the declaration of the Islamic position produced an Islamic movement within the latest session of the [UN] general assembly. This movement has resulted in a number of international resolutions and positions that have clearly supported the inevitability of the establishment of an independent Palestinian state under the control of the PLO and that have stressed the need for Israel's withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, especially from the venerable Jerusalem. Consequently, the maneuver of the military establishment ruling in Tel Aviv has been answered with a sudden move that has caused Israel to lose a large degree of the support which it had gained during the June 1967 war. There is no doubt that the Saudi diplomatic action and its ability to comprehend the events and to determine the timing and quality of the appropriate reaction has bolstered the Islamic position generally to the extent where the current international movement is watching the outcome of the joint Arab action and the unified Islamic action. If anything, this underlines the effective contribution of the Saudi diplomacy which has gained the confidence of the international community first and then the complete confidence of the Arab and Islamic families. This confidence is evident in the statements of the leaders attending the third summit, in their full response to the provisions of the document emanating from the Holy Mosque and embodied in the speech of the redeemed king and in the full support given to the address delivered by His Highness Prince Fahd to the second session of the third Islamic summit. This address needs to be analyzed in view of its comprehensive and realistic quality, considering the comprehensive and realistic approach which the Islamic Kingdom's policy follows to find the means through which quick

and practical solutions can be found for all the problems from which the nation is suffering, especially the problem of preserving its existence and of finding the intrinsic defenses to safeguard the security, stability and peace of the entire Islamic world.

Al-Ta'if Speech and Features of New Movement

The political observer pauses before the phrase included in the Saudi address which His Highness Prince Fahd delivered to the aforementioned session. Though brief and concentrated, this phrase is of vast significance inasmuch as it encompasses the needs of the current phase through which the Islamic nation is passing. Though it reflects continuity of the Saudi policy and role, this phrase also dots the ii's and crosses the tt's insofar as numerous vital issues that require such frank and clear positions are concerned. His Highness Prince Fahd said: "The important thing is not in taking resolutions but in implementing them so that they may achieve the results we desire. This requires a lot of ceaseless work, of sincere efforts and of further followup and coordination."

Here, His Highness Prince Fahd looks for realistic and intrinsic Islamic action through implementation of the resolutions. This means dealing with the event with a movement that yields results that are reflected on the arena. Though the ability to adopt resolutions requires concentration and attention, the ability to implement the resolutions must be timed with the new developments that require the adoption of such resolutions. This defines to the observer the hypothesis required by the Islamic position. In view of the challenges surrounding the Islamic nation, the Islamic reaction must be compatible in its decision and its action, and not just its decision. It is my belief that the Islamic nation's ability to cross the bottleneck separating the adoption of resolutions from the practical capability to implement these resolutions represents the true beginning of the features of the new Islamic movement on which we have touched while discussing the Islamic awakening underlined by His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abn-al-'Aziz. His Highness Prince Fahd attached the said hypothesis to the confrontation to which the Islamic arena is subjected when he said: "The external challenges make it incumbent upon us to move at the international level in a coordinated and concordant manner that realizes our goals."

Here, we can analyze His Highness Prince Fahd's visualization of the movement of the Islamic action at the international level and this action's timing of the resolution with the capability for implementation in the following points:

1. Though the nature of the problems existing on the Islamic arena requires steering clear off the conflicting world powers, it at the same time requires opening channels in this phase with the world powers in order to secure an understanding to free the Islamic arena of these problems, meaning that the cause-and-effect relationship in the nation's problems requires intervening to influence the various powers so that they may reassess their positions in a manner compatible with the nation's demands. It is true that there are issues that require no such things, judging by the situation in Palestine or Afghanistan [sic]. However, contact between the foreign forces and the Islamic arena appears in other issues,

which are definitely subsidiary problems and conflicts. When we decide and begin implementing our decision, the criteria of dealing with us must be readjusted on the basis of respecting the legitimate demands that contribute to realizing peace and stability. All these issues require a strong will and a unified view on the part of the Islamic nation. Prince Fahd has explained all this by saying: "The challenges facing the Islamic world require consolidation of the sincere efforts of the Muslims so that they may take control of affairs." This is fully compatible with the call for steering clear off foreign or external influences so that the decision may be intrinsic and may emanate from the arena and so that implementation may follow the decision.

2. Unified Islamic action at the international level will undoubtedly result in making the various forces aware of the dimensions and quality of the Islamic nation's capability and, consequently, in making them careful in dealing with issues. Had there been a united Islamic stance vis-a-vis the Soviet position in Afghanistan, such a stance would have resulted in the immediate withdrawal of the Soviets from the Afghan territories in fear of the unified reaction. Had the Arabs agreed on the executive formulas for the action that should have been taken against Israel, no force would have dared to declare its support for Israel or would have tried to impose its existence. There is no doubt that prince Fahd has defined here the first step in the new phase to be undergone by the Arab nation, namely the phase of adopting the decision and of the full capability to implement it. Naturally, it is up to the nation's leaderships to draw up the picture of the Islamic movement at all the levels to achieve the desired goals.

How Does Islamic Nation Deal With Major Powers?

There is no doubt that in light of the struggle between the two superpowers in this world, the states that are not affiliated with either of these two powers are required to be careful in their dealings in view of the thin thread separating the eastern forces, represented in the Soviets, and the western forces, represented in the United States. Insofar as the Islamic nation generally is concerned, it stands before a turning point that requires careful action and an arrangement of the positions in a manner that preserves this nation's existence as a single unit. Prince Fahd has stated clearly and frankly that the major world powers have interests that are often incompatible with ours. As examples, he has cited the Soviet actions and the Afghanistan issue and the United States and its traditional position of support for Israel. In politics, it is illogical to boycott these powers which control the world or impose their presence on it in reliance on their armed or military force. However, it is essential that we define our goals and that we outline for these powers the path that they can follow in dealing with us. This is an extremely delicate issue by evidence of the fact that the nonalignment movement has not succeeded in escaping the problem of the struggle between the east and the west, having tilted somewhat in the direction of the Soviet Union, even though it dons the robe of nonalignment. If this matter is delicate insofar as groups or complete units are concerned, then it is more delicate insofar as individual states are concerned. Prince Fahd has underlined the approach capable of dealing with these powers when he projected the need for reliance on God, for self-reliance, for intrinsic capability and for solidarity. In the political sense, this means united action and intrinsic movement. Such action and movement are more

available to the Islamic nation than to others. Basically, the Islamic creed unites thought, movement and action. Here emerges the importance of Islamic solidarity and of pouring all the Islamic efforts into one channel that makes the United States or the Soviet Union respect the Islamic world's wish to stay out of the reach of their ambitions and to be spared the arrogant attitude which they deal with peoples.

For the struggle of these powers to be kept outside the Islamic arena, we must first (sort out the ambiguities in their positions toward the nation). His Highness Prince Fahd underlines in his address an extremely important point which has drawn the attention of observers when he said: "We do not want to anticipate events with optimism or pessimism over the policy of the new U.S. administration." There is no doubt that this statement reflects superior diplomatic skill and stresses the following facts:

1. The unified Islamic resolution toward the issue of Jerusalem and Palestine can, in view of the close connection of the U.S. position with this issue by virtue of the U.S. support for Israel, place the new U.S. decision maker before options that make him modify the U.S. administration's directions so that they may become compatible with the actual need of the Islamic nation, especially in the wake of rejection of the peace made in Camp David, of any similar formulas and of the principle of imposing a peace not based on justice.
2. It must be stressed that the intrinsic Islamic movement can, through the resolution and implementation of the resolution, subjugate all the international positions connected with the Islamic problems. So that the initiative in complicating matters may not come from the Islamic nation, this nation must give the world powers the chance to rearrange their positions in light of the need for stability and peace as a principle that concerns the Islamic world.

The Soviets may be dealt with by the same criterion, even though all their stances prove their tampering with the Islamic rights and even though some of these stances outwardly support some of the [Islamic] rights, such as in the case of the Palestinian issue. His Highness Prince Fahd has already stressed that we are a part of this world and that, consequently, we are in the crucible of influencing and of being influenced by its events. Wisdom and caution can always enable the Islamic nation to be in the position of the influencing side or the side that always prepares for the making of the international decision.

These are the features of the Islamic movement generally in this phase as a result of the rapid succession of events. Naturally, the programming of the Saudi diplomacy in the manner underlined by the facts and indicated by the surrounding signs puts this diplomacy in a front position in the Islamic arena because of its important place and because of the ability of its decision makers to produce positive results that contribute to progress on the path which can realize peace, stability and security for the Islamic world and, consequently, for the entire world. It is my belief that the political engineering carried out by His Highness Prince Fahd insofar as the Saudi positions are concerned has drawn up for the Islamic nation, through the Islamic summit, the directions and courses that must be followed on the arena generally as the inevitable outlet from the situation currently prevailing in

the Islamic world and as a means of regaining the rights and preserving the Islamic entity. The future Islamic movement depends on the outcome of the third summit. This outcome is significant, now that the dangers engulfing the Arab nation from every side have become well known.

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PERSONALITY, CONCEPTS OF PRINCE MAQRIN IBN 'ABD-AL-'AZIZ DEPICTED

Jiddah 'UKAZ in Arabic 31 Jan 81 p 3

[Article by Nasir al-Shahri: "Prince Maqrin ibn 'Abd-al-'Aziz: How Does He Think and What Does He Think of; This Is Concept of Amirate in My View; I Am Very Proud of Social Awareness of Ha'il; Saudi Man Is Target of Development Plans; Old Society Left Behind Sublime Human Rules; Oil Is not Only Mainstay on Which We Must Live"]

[Text] Before you meet him for the first time and talk to him, he makes you feel that you are close to him, that you are not a stranger and that only the element of time determines the timing of the meeting at a certain hour. Our guest today is His Highness Prince Maqrin ibn 'Abd-al-'Aziz, the 'ideal man who has been shouldering the responsibility of Ha'il Amirate [Province]. You find the military spirit and its vitality evident in the personality and insight of this man.

Before becoming the amir of Ha'il Province, Prince Maqrin enrolled in higher military studies and was an ideal military pilot among his colleagues. His highness chose the military field because of his love and faith in the creed of this nation, in its leadership and in its land. So he had to join the military field in which he spent a period dear to him, as his highness says.

As to how he views himself as the Amir of Ha'il Province, his view is based on several criteria, the first being: He is here to serve this province and its society and all its citizens are his brothers and sons. All the efforts must be consolidated to lead the gem of the north to its developmental goals to which His Majesty King Khalid, his highness the crown prince and his highness the second deputy [prime minister] aspire. His door at the office and at home is open to all so that they may come and discuss whatever concerns the citizen of this province. This is the true concept of a province's (governorship), as His Highness the young Prince Maqrin ibn 'Abd-al-'Aziz says.

Making Decisions on Basis of Coordination

A province amir cannot be so much the decision maker for all that he desires in his province, says Prince Maqrin, as he is the proposal maker, the planner and the executor of whatever enhances the standard of the citizen and of the land in coordination with the state agencies concerned in the various ministries.

This coordination is essential because every proposal or project is connected with a certain state authority which considers the broad lines and then formulates the practical strategy according to technical studies by the specialists. These authorities then make the executive decision in accordance with their jurisdiction. This means that coordination is very important and that it must be present in the execution of every idea or project.

But I would like to say that Ha'il Province has witnessed and will witness, God willing, numerous development and growth projects under the canopy of this coordination. These projects include those under implementation and those resulting from his majesty the king's visit to the area.

I Am no Stranger in Ha'il

Speaking of his satisfaction with Ha'il Province, Prince Maqrin ibn 'Abd-al-'Aziz has said: "I am no stranger to life in Ha'il because there is no difference between one part of our beloved kingdom's map and another. Perhaps what makes me love this province still more is the cooperation of its citizens with whatever is capable of developing Ha'il." "Society in this area," according to Prince Maqrin, "enjoys commendable qualities which I cannot describe." Moreover, social awareness is one of the cultural mainstays and of the sound bases for the creation of a social foundation for the various phases of development. This is what I have found in Ha'il." "Building the man," adds his highness, "is no easy matter, especially in a society which until recently lived in a barren desert lacking all the elements of life. All are aware of the period of the creation of this kingdom on the hands of King 'Abd-al-'Aziz, may God's mercy be upon him. Ha'il, like the kingdom's other cities and provinces, has made in a period of no more than 51 years such vast progress and has realized a dream."

Saudi Man Is Target of Development Plan

Resuming his talk about man in our society generally, young Prince Maqrin ibn 'Abd-al-'Aziz said: "Man is the target of all the development plans. When man realizes this, he becomes inevitably the best supporter and the best participant in the success of these plans at the various levels." As to how he views the older generation and the young generation, Prince Maqrin believes that the older generation planted for us the most sublime ideals of abiding by the great faith and traditions and that the older generation contributed and gave all its efforts within the limits of its resources and educational capabilities at a time when none of the modern age's capabilities, technological innovations, means of education and means of comfortable living were available. Yet, that generation was able to dig the earth with its nails and to lay down human foundations which we must preserve.

What About New Generation

He continues: "As for the new generation, it has been able to utilize the resources made available by modern life and to employ them in enhancing the level of this civilization. This is good because interaction with the development in the various spheres is proceeding at an active pace. However, our generation must double its efforts to gain experiences and skills through the agencies that implement the

development projects in our country and that have been established for this purpose. I mean here the technical agencies because we will need to create in the future a national base of qualified youth capable of transferring technology to this country and society and to the future generations."

Our Youth Must Shoulder Responsibility of Building

Citing an example, His Highness Prince Maqrin said:

"When the five-year plan projects are completed, we will find ourselves in need of nearly one-half the number of workers involved in implementing the various phases of the plan to manage and maintain the projects. Will we be forced to conclude contracts [with foreigners] for all the number needed for this purpose or will we find an adequate national workforce to manage and maintain the projects?" This is one question which His Highness Prince Maqrin raises. The prince goes on to tell the youth: "I hope we will not anticipate the events and will not answer this question either positively or negatively. I hope that the positive answer will come from the youth themselves and that they will show this in words and in action by the end of the plan. Our youth must be trained for this work as of now. I have great faith in our youth. As we are aware of our need for the teacher, we must become aware of our need for the engineer specialized in the various fields and as we are aware of our need for the hospital specialist, we must also become aware of our need for the agricultural specialist." Pausing before the issue of the agricultural specialist, Prince Maqrin ibn 'Abd-al-'Aziz said: "If we talk about agriculture in the past and at present, we find that our ancestors enhanced agricultural production at a time when they had to dig the earth with their nails and without the help of any modern agricultural machinery. Now that agriculture has become a mere matter of management and that it is supported by the state with all the means that facilitate production, it is regrettable that we find some people who stay away from this field whereas sound views confirm practically that agriculture is an important economic resource in the life of peoples.

"Oil is a depletable resource and it is not essential that we focus all our capabilities on it. The sources of our national revenue must be diversified, whether in the sphere of agriculture, of industry or other spheres which must be started with the consolidation of collective efforts."

Military Man and Man of Creed and Country

Speaking on the military affairs, Prince Maqrin said: "How great is the man who works in the military sphere! He is a man of creed, of state and of the country. It is enough [honor for him] that he stands to defend these three missions."

Press in Accusation Box

The Amir of Ha'il Province has a special view of the press. It must perform its desired message in a developed and modern fashion that keeps in touch with the people's life and keeps up with the events. Frankness is of extreme significance in the press, provided that the word is meant for a sound concept and not for objectives and purposes that do not serve society. Regarding our local press, he

has said: "The Saudi journalist or broadcaster must be able to manage an interview." This is an accusation which His Highness Prince Maqrin raises with the aim of enhancing the standard of the Saudi press. Citing examples, his highness has said: More than one journalist who has interviewed me never went beyond asking me about my feelings and my impressions. In my view, this is not so much a question as it is a piece of composition. The press must go beyond this format to what is more important because the answer can only be as important as the question. His Highness goes on to add:

"We find that the press tries to highlight simple matters that do not deserve to be given such attention." Citing an example, he said: "Our papers have used the Ha'il well [possibly meaning hot spring] as a rich source for lengthy and detailed articles. Had the press discovered the popularity of the well and had the well been in the remotest part of Europe, the journalists would have been the first to go and would have said that there lies the right cure [sic]."

Let us leave Ha'il well alone, as Prince Maqrin says, and let us turn to what is more important in developing the press quantitatively and qualitatively.

Our Differences as Arabs and Muslims Must Melt on Rock of Unity

Speaking of the political conditions under which the Arab and Islamic society is living, Prince Maqrin ibn 'Abd-al-'Aziz has said: "The Arab and Islamic nation cannot confront its problems unless it unites its word and its ranks. We have a problem in Jerusalem, a problem in Palestine, a problem in Afghanistan and problems in Jordan, southern Lebanon and we have other problems that are not so much confined to the Arab world as they concern the entire Islamic society. Therefore, the voice of the Islamic conscience must be united. When this is done, the voice of this nation's conscience will kill all the schemes of the malicious. Our Islamic world is the target of communist and Zionist activities hostile to the principles of Islam and full of malice toward the security, peace and civilization of the Muslim people. Therefore, the differences of the Arab and Islamic society must melt on the rock of unity so that these challenges may be confronted."

Preserving Traditions and Heritage

The prince's favorite hobby is hunting and he adores hawking. His hawking trips are governed by the availability of time and opportunities. However, what makes up for the lack of actual hawking is the fact that his highness keeps in a sun tent [sic] in a big yard in his house a number of trained hawks which he is content to watch while sitting in his open social gathering tent which reflects the genuine Arab heritage of the Arabian Peninsula. In this social gathering place, Prince Maqrin sits near a fireplace for warmth and with pots of Arabic coffee on one side of the fireplace. To this gathering place come many of the shaykhs, notables and officials of Ha'il Province to hear his instructions and to exchange views and conversation on everyday affairs. What you notice when the prince is talking or answering a question is that he insists on either persuading or being persuaded of what is said and that he conducts his discussion in a magnificent fashion until he gets or gives a convincing answer.

What Do Others Say About Him?

In his modest social gathering place, there are a number of people, of whom some elderly persons attract my attention. I approached some of them while the amir wasn't watching and tried to be sure that his highness did not sense my intention to ask the others any question for fear of what he would say in comment on the curiosity of journalists, considering that his highness had said enough funny things about journalists before the start of the interview.

Let us get back to our point regarding what these elderly people say about Prince Maqrin in his presence.

Pointing his finger toward the amir while sitting in one corner of the tent, one of those elderly men said:

"Insofar as we the shaykhs of Ha'il are concerned, he is considered a father, a son and a dear brother at the same time. He is sensitive to our concerns and he takes part with us in solving even our private problems. He never gets annoyed with our frequent visits to his council to spend our free time with him." Another person interrupts the first to say: "I travel a long distance from our village in the north to sit with Prince Maqrin during his free time. Many of the citizens of this province also come with us because we like the opinions and conversations of this man. I don't remember that he has ever declined to receive anybody at his office or in his council." A third man joined in to say: "This is not surprising from the sons of 'Abd-al-'Aziz ibn 'Abd-al-Rahman. They have always loved every young and old member of their people and they offer all people that which is good and constructive."

8494

CSO: 4802

SOUTH LEBANESE DELEGATION VISITS DAMASCUS

Al-Asad, Khaddam Receive Delegation

JN091948 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] At 1615 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received a delegation of the Lebanese Front for the Protection of Southern Lebanon made up of the following deputies: Muhammad Safiy al-Din, Wahid al-Husayni, 'Abd al-Latif al-Zayn, Ja'far Sharaf al-Din, Rafiq Shahin and Sa'id Fawwaz.

The talks dealt with the situation in Lebanon in general and the situation in southern Lebanon and the Israeli aggression in particular. Ways of bolstering steadfastness in southern Lebanon were also discussed.

'Abd al-Halim Khaddam also received the delegation and held talks with it on the repeated Zionist attacks against southern Lebanon and their link with the plot being concocted against Lebanon's unity.

Chief Delegate Issues Statement

JN100745 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 10 Apr 81

[Text] Damascus--On their departure from Damascus yesterday, the members of the delegation of the Lebanese Front for the Protection of Southern Lebanon praised the results of their visit to Syria and meeting with President Hafiz al-Asad.

Head of the delegation Muhammad Safiy al-Din stated that the talks of the front's delegation with President Hafiz al-Asad had centered on the political and military background of the recent eruption of the security situation in the Lebanese arena.

In a press statement prior to his departure from Damascus for Beirut, he affirmed that fabricating problems in Lebanon in light of the current political stage in the region is for the purpose of imposing specific solutions which are no longer secret to anyone.

He added that the Lebanese Front for the Protection of Southern Lebanon thanks President al-Asad for his sincere readiness to help save Lebanon from the fate awaiting it, a fate whose drastic results will even exceed the horrors witnessed by the region ever since the beginning of this century.

SYRIA

SYRIAN-BRITISH PARLIAMENTARY TALKS HELD IN DAMASCUS

Hadid Explains Syrian Position

JN082015 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 8 Apr 81

[Text] People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud Hadid received this evening the UK Houses of Lords and Commons delegation under (James Johnson), now visiting Syria.

The meeting was attended by Dr Muhsin Bilal, chairman of the assembly's Arab and Foreign Relations Committee.

Discussion dealt with the situation in the Middle East, particularly the Palestinian cause and the situation in Lebanon.

The People's Assembly speaker explained to the British Parliamentary delegation Syria's principled and consistent stand on the Middle East issue based on two fundamental conditions: withdrawal from the Arab territories occupied in 1967 and recognition of the Palestinian people's rights. Mahmud Hadid spoke in detail about the history of the Palestinian cause, the Israeli aggressive measures and the crimes Israel has committed against the Palestinian Arab people over the past 35 years. Hadid stressed that the Arabs wish and aspire for peace. They, however, want this peace to be a just and real peace that will secure rights and protect dignity. Hadid said that any initiative, regardless of its source, that does not take into consideration the Palestinian people's rights will fail like its predecessors.

Hadid also stressed that the tense situation in Lebanon is the result of the U.S. policy of aggression in the area, that our Arab people are determined to continue the struggle and that they are confident of victory.

Hadid referred to the huge burdens Syria is shouldering. He said: Despite all these burdens, our country is making large strides on the road to developing our society, entrenching a sound and solid economic structure and fulfilling the masses' needs.

At the end of the meeting, Hadid expressed hope that the members of the British Parliamentary delegation had become acquainted during their visit with the objective facts. He also expressed hope that they would convey their impressions with objectivity and realism to UK Parliamentarians and people.

The head and members of the British Parliamentary delegation stressed that their visit had been very fruitful, that they had become acquainted with matters about which they previously had no knowledge and that their meetings with Syrian officials were rich in information and good impressions. They pointed to the importance of such visits and meetings at all levels, particularly on the parliamentary level. They also stressed that they will convey their impressions accurately and honestly to their colleagues and to the British people.

The second round of talks between the guest delegation and a People's Assembly delegation will be held tomorrow, Thursday. The delegation will also visit the Tudmur antiquities and Euphrates Dam on Friday.

Parliamentary Cooperation Discussed

JN092114 Damascus SANA in Arabic 2000 GMT 9 Apr 81

[Text] Damascus, 9 Apr (SANA)--The second round of Syrian-British Parliamentary talks was held here this evening. Dr Muhsin Bilal, chairman of the People's Assembly Arab and Foreign Affairs Committee, presided over the Syrian side, while (James Johnson), Labor Party House of Commons member, presided over the British side.

Today's discussion dealt with the parliamentary cooperative relations between the two countries and the possibility of establishing a Syrian-British Parliamentary Friendship Society. The two sides also continued their discussions on the Middle East issue and its reflections on the region in particular and on Europe in general. In this regard, Dr Bilal stressed that it will not be possible to establish normal relations and mutual friendship with Europe unless the Europeans develop a real understanding of the Arab cause in a manner that harmonizes with justice. He also stressed that the Arabs establish their relations with the various states in accordance with these states' stands toward the cause.

Talks then dealt with economic and social development and construction in Syria. The British Parliamentary delegation members expressed their admiration for the tangible development they noticed in all fields, particularly in the field of construction, industrialization and planting trees in streets and squares.

At the end of the session, the British Parliamentary delegation expressed its complete understanding of the ideas submitted by the People's Assembly delegation with regard to all the subjects submitted for discussion. They also expressed their intention to communicate all the good impressions they had during their fruitful visit to Syria to their colleagues in the Houses of Commons and Lords and to the British people and officials.

C50: 4802

SYRIA

BRIEFS

PRESIDENT CABLES CPCZ GENERAL SECRETARY--On the occasion of the convocation of the 16th Congress of the Czechoslovak Communist Party [CPCZ], I have the pleasure of expressing, in my own name and on behalf of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party's leadership, my sincerest and warmest greetings of struggle. We appreciate the significance of the convocation of your conference under the present international circumstances when imperialism and its allies of all kinds are attempting to escalate international tension and impede all sincere efforts to achieve a detente that would lead, in turn, to establishing a just world peace and compatible relations among all the world states. I would like to express the confidence that the 16th CPCZ Congress will bolster the march of progress and prosperity in Czechoslovakia, Czechoslovakia's place within the socialist bloc and on the international level and its effective contribution to the struggle, in order to achieve peace, security and progress in the world. As I express confidence that your congress will achieve success in its discussions and resolutions, I would also like to express my best wishes for your health and happiness. [Text] [JN061357 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 6 Apr 81]

PRESIDENT CABLES BULGARIA'S ZHIVKOV--Dear comrade, on the occasion of your election as secretary general of the Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP] at the conclusion of the party's 12th Congress, I have the pleasure of expressing in my own name and on behalf of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party's leaderships, my sincerest congratulations for the trust given you by the BCP Congress and best wishes for success. The BCP's 12th Congress was a great event in the life of the Bulgarian People's Republic, as manifested by its events and decisions. There is no doubt that this congress' discussions and resolutions will bolster your party's march, your friendly country's development and its place within the socialist bloc and on the international level and will affirm Bulgaria's principled stands on the world's major issues. The attendance by our Arab Socialist Ba'th Party of the BCP's 12th Congress reflected the strong ties linking our two parties and countries, relations which we hope will develop. Indeed, we are working to achieve the development of these relations in the interest of our two peoples and their joint struggle against the Zionist, imperialist and racist elements and exploitation. I would like to seize this opportunity, dear friend, to express my best wishes for health and happiness. [Text] [JN051422 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 5 Apr 81]

PLANS TO BLOW UP AMMAN RADIO -According to information from Beirut, head of the Syrian intelligence apparatus 'Ali Duba recently concluded a secret agreement with several elements of Nayif Hawatima's Democratic Popular Front for the liberation of Palestine and of al-Sa'iqah to carry out acts of sabotage in fraternal Jordan. The information adds that the terrorists have among other targets the radio building in Amman, the power station and a number of bridges. Previous information said that the defense squads gangs have prepared a study on storming the royal palaces in Jordan and kidnapping Prime Minister Mudar Badran. [Text] [JN122034 Baghdad Voice of Arab Syria in Arabic 1930 GMT 12 Apr 81]

SYRIAN-LIBYAN INFORMATION MEETING--Damascus--A meeting to discuss information co-operation was held between fraternal Libya and Syria at 1100 today. On the Libyan side the meeting was attended by Ibrahim al-Bashshari, secretary of the administrative committee for revolutionary information. On the Syrian side the meeting was attended by Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad. Discussion dealt with ways to improve contacts in every sense between the two fraternal states, bolster existing cultural and information cooperation and provide new opportunities for such cooperation in the fields of foreign information, distribution and publication and joint production programs. It was affirmed that practical and objective steps will be implemented based on available potentials and serving the unionist trend between the two states. The meeting ended at 1315 today. [Excerpts] [JN081635 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 8 Apr 81]

YUGOSLAV PARLIAMENTARIAN ARRIVES ON VISIT--Nijaz Dizdarevic, president of the Yugoslav Federal Assembly Committee for Foreign Affairs, arrived in Damascus this morning on a visit to Syria that will last for several days. During the visit, Dizdarevic will attend the Palestine National Council meetings scheduled to begin on Saturday. He will also hold talks with the Syrian Parliamentary Branch for Coordination on topics to be raised at the next session of the International Parliamentary Union, to convene in Manila on 20 April. The Yugoslav official was welcomed at Damascus International Airport by Dr Muhsin Bilal, chairman of the People's Assembly Arab and Foreign Affairs Committee, and the Yugoslav ambassador in Damascus. [Text] [JN091441 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 9 Apr 81]

CSO: 4802

ECONOMY CONTINUES GENERAL UPSWING IN 1980

GF100940 Dubayy KHALEEF TIMES in English 10 Apr 81 p 1

[Text] The general economic situation in the United Arab Emirates is continuously improving, according to the annual report published by the Central Bank for the year 1980.

According to the report, the trade activities have witnessed a big improvement along with the construction sector which experienced a crisis in the past year.

It attributed this to the action undertaken by the committee formed by the government to settle real estate loans. The report said the action would enable the bank to give more attention to the development of the industrial sector.

The commercial and construction sectors took a major part of the financial activities, while the share of the industrial sector was smaller as it was a latecomer. The report has expressed its disappointment over lack of financial support to the industrial sector. This is partly due to the higher profitability in commercial and construction sectors that attracted the investors from the industrial field.

In 1980 the banks had withdrawn a large amount of their assets held in the construction sector as a result of the repayments made by the Land Loans Settlements Committee. This resulted in the liberation of huge funds for use by banks in other fields. It is expected now that some of these funds find their way into the industrial sector that can spur its growth further.

Bank deposits rose to DH 18.7 billion (a little over \$5 billion) by the end of 1980 representing about 40 percent of their total liabilities against DH 15.6 billion (about \$4.2 billion).

The report cited several factors which it said reflect a certain lack of confidence in the banking system in the country. Those include differential interest rates between the UAE and Eurodollar markets, the openness of the economy and the preference of the community for liquidity and for depositing funds abroad. It, however, expected a gradual improvement in the coming years.

According to the report, the number of commercial banks in the UAE by the end of December 1980, was 49 with 347 operating branches--21 banks are locally incorporated and 28 foreign.

According to the report, the inflation rate decreased from 25 percent during the 1973-77 period to 15 percent between 1978 and 1980.

It pointed out that the average growth of banking credit had fallen from 21 percent in 1978 to 16 percent in 1979 and to 14 percent in 1980 while the increase in currency supply remained within the limits of between 9 and 10 percent during that period. This showed it was at a lower level than during the 1974-76 period.

The imports of UAE rose from \$7 billion in 1979 to \$8.5 billion in 1980 while the average price of imported goods in 1980 was 20 percent higher than that of 1979.

The report noted that the economic boom returned anew.

The rent levels began to rise again in Abu Dhabi which made the rate of inflation rise to about 18 percent.

The report pointed out that the financial policy and governmental expenditure were the main local factors that affected the prices during the last few years.

The total expenditure of the federal government and the local governments was DH 26 billion in 1978 and rose to DH 31 billion in 1979 and to DH 38 billion in 1980.

CSO: 4802

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

CABINET APPROVES 24 BILLION DIRHAMS FOR 81 FEDERAL BUDGET

GF131340 Dubayy Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 13 Apr 81

[Text] Abu Dhabi--At its weekly meeting under the chairmanship of vice president and prime minister His Highness Shaykh Rashid ibn Sa'id al-Maktum, the cabinet today approved the sum of 24 billion dirhams for the 1981 budget.

Finance and Industry Minister Hamdan ibn Rashid al-Maktum said that the emirates of Abu Dhabi and Dubai contribute as much as 50 percent of their annual oil revenues to the UAE federal budget. He said the 1981 budget includes a general reserve that has not yet been specified.

He declared that the cabinet had agreed to form a ministerial committee of the ministers of finance, communications and planning and the Ministry of State for Cabinet Affairs to study and draw up the basic principles of the budget and to evaluate the general reserve for the 1981 budget in accordance with the country's needs and the projects proposed by the various ministries. He added that the committee will meet under his chairmanship on Saturday and will report to the cabinet during its next meeting so that the cabinet will approve the budget's basic principles as defined by the committee. The Ministry of Finance and Industry will then discuss with the various ministries the allocations for each ministry and the projects proposed by that ministry so that they are included in the general budget.

Hamdan ibn Rashid al-Maktum declared that the UAE general budget in future years will include a general reserve estimated at approximately 5-10 percent of the annual budget.

CSO: 4802

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

ABU DHABI CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL APPROVES 1981 BUDGET

GF141134 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 14 Apr 81 p 1

[Text] The Abu Dhabi Consultative Council approved the Emirate's general budget for the fiscal year 1981 yesterday. It includes an allocation of DH 7.3 billion for development projects.

Abu Dhabi's revenue for this year was estimated at DH 41.9 billion and expenditure at DH 36.3 billion.

The budget includes the contribution of DH 20.45 billion or 50 percent of the Abu Dhabi Emirate's oil revenues to the federal budget and allocation of DH 6.3 billion for the ordinary budget of the Emirate's local departments.

At least DH 1.3 billion will be given away by the Abu Dhabi Emirate as aid to foreign countries, while DH 1 billion will go toward capital expenditure.

The council, at a meeting presided over by its chairman, Shaydh Sultan ibn Surur az-Zahiri, also discussed a report by the Financial and Economic Affairs Committee on the budget. The report estimated that the revenue for the current year would increase by DH 3 billion over last year because of the oil price increases.

The petroleum revenue formed 97.6 percent of the Emirate's total revenue for 1981.

The Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) topped the list with DH 22 billion, followed by the Abu Dhabi Oil Company (DH 9.5 billion) and the Abu Dhabi Marine Operations Company (DH 7 billion).

The budget includes DH 2.5 billion to compensate nationals in the city of Abu Dhabi and to improve nationals living standards generally.

The budget will be effective retrospectively from 1 January.

CSO: 4820

'AL-KHALIJ' ON BRITISH ARMS DEALS WITH GULF STATES

GF120755 Al-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 11 Apr 81 p 1

[Editorial: "Involuntary Military Aid"]

[Text] As soon as British Defense Secretary John Nott returned to London following his Gulf tour, and before even taking a breath, he announced joyfully that he had returned with arms deals signed with the Gulf states.

It is true that the Gulf states concerned have not yet announced those deals. To be fair to the countries concerned, we say that their usual silence with regard to all important, serious and fateful talks is not necessarily an indication that these states commissioned the British minister to announce the arms deals on their behalf.

However, Britain is interested in announcing the transactions. In fact it is interested in concluding big deals in order to sell its arms to the Gulf states, and especially the Gulf states. First of all, such valuable deals help loosen the grip around the throat of the overburdened British economy. The second reason is that Britain, like all other West European states, wants to force us to pay back what it spends on its Gulf oil imports. They know well that their exports to us such as canned food and fragile products [as published] do not compensate them sufficiently and that arms sales are the only thing that will reimburse them in multiples of what they paid to buy our oil.

The third reason--and this is the most important and most serious one--is connected to British plans to return east of Suez. If this return is not achieved by the deployment of armed forces, it will be possible through arms deals, a method some people believe will not hurt our national pride.

The arms deals which come from aspiring states, especially those which do not hide their plans to impose their influence, are nothing but another way of intervening because the arms will have to be accompanied by experts and training officers who create strong ties between the importing capital and the purpose for which the arms were imported.

It is true that the national will gives a weapon the name of those who hold it, no matter where this weapon comes from. However, the British intention to intervene as declared by the British prime minister and her defense secretary, John Nott, reverses this rule.

The most important thing we require today is to keep the Gulf region away from superpower conflicts and away from ambitions to impose sovereignty on the region no matter where they come from. It is this that will protect the region against unpredictable threats. We have thus called for safeguarding the Gulf from international conflicts. When we face aggression against the Gulf, we will possess the will to ask for military aid.

There is a clear difference between asking for military aid when aggression takes place and a certain state seeking to force us to accept military aid. In the latter case such aid would limit our sovereignty, it being one form of intervention not much different from the presence of military bases, which are simply a larger type of presence.

There is no doubt that the Gulf states need to arm their forces. They should select the sources of their arms carefully in order to avoid the imposition of foreign sovereignty which would no doubt embolden us in superpower conflicts as subordinates that have no right to self-determination.

CSO: 4802

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

WORK BEGINS ON OIL PROJECT ON DELMA ISLAND

GF021105 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 2 Apr 81

[Excerpts] Delma--President Shaykh Zayid Ibn Sultan al Nuhayyan today laid the foundation stone of the project to develop the oilfields of Sath, Delma and (Zaghnin) on the Island of Delma. The ceremony was attended by Vice President and Prime Minister Shaykh Rashid Ibn Sa'id al-Maktum, chief of the president's office Surur Ibn Muhammad, Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah and a large crowd of citizens inhabiting Delma Island.

The representative of the Umm ad-Dalkh Company, which is responsible for the project's implementation, delivered a speech. The company's representative said: The project includes the development of the island's principal oilfields of Sath, Delma and (Zaghnin). Their total production at the end of 1984 will be about 40,000 barrels daily--in the initial phase of the project. The project will cost approximately \$700 million. It will also include a main production station and secondary station, the construction of oil rigs, and construction of pipelines between the oil rigs and the stations and between the stations and the island. A city for the petroleum industry will be built on the island. It will include plants for treating oil and natural gas and the use of natural gas, oil reservoirs and power stations as well as a port for the export of crude oil, a center for collecting oil, a housing complex, hospital, mosque, road network, public parks, health services, telephone communications and facilities for regular air and sea trips.

Petroleum and Mineral Resources Minister Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah then delivered a speech in which he welcomed the president and Vice President Rashid Ibn Sa'id al-Maktum and those attending the ceremony.

The president then unveiled the commemorative plaque on the project's foundation stone thus marking the beginning of work on this project.

The president delivered a brief speech in which he thanked those supervising the implementation of the project and wished them success.

CSO: 4802

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

BRIEFS

FINANCE COMPANY REGULATIONS--Abu Dhabi, 1 Apr (WAM):--The Central Bank's board of directors has approved the basic rules to regulate licensing of financial companies and institutions in the country, according to Bank's Governor Abdul Malik al-Hamar. The rules provide that a financial institution must be set up in the form of joint stock company with limited liability and on the line of commercial banks, provided for in clause 79 of Central Bank Law. The rules stipulate that the establishment of the company shall be in consonance with the memorandum of association and the establishing contract prepared by the founding members of the company, taking in consideration the terms provided for in the bank's law. The rules provide that the Central Bank shall grant a licence to an eligible company after scrutinising its memorandum of association and founding contract and completion by it of the legal procedures required by Central Bank in harmony with the State's political and economic policies and also after ascertaining its economic feasibility, the financial status of the founding members and their credit worthiness. These regulations also stipulate that the company's capital be not less than Dh.50 million, with 70 per cent of its shares owned by UAE individuals or institutions and the shares owned by the founding members shall not exceed 55 per cent. The share capital unit is fixed at Dh. 100 each and the issue expense per share shall not be more than 1 per cent of the share's value. The shareholders, including the founding members, shall not be allowed to sell their shares or concede them to others before three years. It is also provided that national members of the company's board be not less than two-thirds and the chairman, in any case, should be a UAE national. [Text] [Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS in English 2 Apr 81 p 3]

THIEF GIVEN DEATH SENTENCE--Abu Dhabi, 1 Apr (WAM):--Marouf Mohamed Abid, the man accused in the armed robbery in a money exchange shop in the Souk and a petrol filling station at Al Mafraq last month has been sentenced to death. The Abu Dhabi Sharia Court, headed by Advisor Sheikh Majdoub Ali Eissa, a Judge of the Appellate Court which awarded the death penalty, sentenced the second and third accused in the case, Adel Mohamed Abid and Hassan Mohamed Afara, to 14 years' imprisonment each, followed by deportation. The fourth accused, Nazeeh Awad Abdul Qadir, was jailed for three months, for involvement in planning the two crimes. Advisor Eissa, pronouncing the judgment, stressed the need for public security and described the crime as the first of its kind committed in the UAE. He pointed out that unless such crimes were severely dealt with, others of a similar nature could occur in the state. The first accused, Marouf Mohammed Abid, requested the Court to immediately carry out the sentence of execution against him, for he considered his life finished from the moment of his arrest. The defendants have been given 15 days' time to appeal. The Appellate Court's death sentence will thereafter be referred to the higher authorities for endorsement. [Text] [Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS in English 2 Apr 81 p 3]

POPULATION FIGURES--Abu Dhabi, 1 Apr (AL FAJP)--The population of UAE has tripled within eight years from 319,000 in 1972 to 1.04 million 1980. UAE nationals, however, constitute only 20 per cent of the total population. This was stated by former Syrian Minister for Industry and Petroleum Dr Assad Taqila in a recent lecture on "Foreign Manpower in the UAE." Dr Taqila said the present size of the labour force in the UAE was 541,000 compared with 145,000 in 1972 and 78,000 in 1968. Of the 541,000 workers, 26 per cent or 142,000 were working in the building construction sector and 16.7 per cent or 90,000 in hotels and restaurants and 73,900 in transport and communications. Only 8 per cent of the labour force was engaged in the production, industrial, animal husbandry and infra-structural sectors. Skilled and semi-skilled workmen constituted 34 per cent each of the total. [Text] [Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS in English 2 Apr 81 p 3]

JAPAN, UAE JOINT STATEMENT--Abu Dhabi, 5 Apr (ENA)--The UAE and Japan have stressed the need to find a solution to the Palestinian cause in order to achieve a just and lasting peace in the Middle East region. They also emphasized the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and the need to respect these rights and recognize them in accordance with the UN charter, in addition to the need for the Israeli forces' withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories. This was contained in a press statement issued at the end of the first meeting of the Joint Cooperation Committee, which ended in Abu Dhabi today. The committee was chaired by 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Jarwan, UAE Foreign Ministry under secretary, and Noboru Nakahira, Japanese ambassador to the UAE. The statement pointed out that the two sides reviewed bilateral cooperation in the economic, technical, cultural and sports fields and exchanged views on ways of enhancing this cooperation. The two sides expressed deep satisfaction with the frank consultations and the exchange of opinions during the Joint Cooperation Committee's meeting, which proved to be very useful for the development of the excellent relations existing between the two countries. The Japanese side expressed profound thanks for the UAE for the warm welcome accorded it and for the arrangements made to hold the committee's first meeting. The two sides agreed to hold the committee's next meeting in Tokyo next year. [Text] [JN051955 Abu Dhabi Emirates News Agency in Arabic 1745 GMT 5 Apr 81]

PRESIDENT BRIEFED ON LEBANON EVENTS--Abu Dhabi--UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan al Nahayyan received PLO Political Department head Faruq Qaddumi, who is currently visiting the country, at al-Mushrif Palace today. After the meeting Qaddumi said he had briefed the president on recent developments in southern Lebanon, where Israeli forces are intensifying and escalating their aggression against Palestinian refugee camps and Lebanese villages. He also briefed his highness on current events in Beirut, where the isolationist forces are implementing the scheme that has been charted for them: to undermine reconciliation in Lebanon and to commit aggression against the Palestinian people. He asserted that these provocative actions were accompanied by recent statements on the new administration in the United States, which supported the Israeli aggression against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples and Israeli operations. The aim is to force the inhabitants of southern Lebanon to leave the area and to liquidate Palestinian refugee camps. Qaddumi added that he informed President Shaykh Zayid of the good offices of the Islamic and nonaligned committees to end the Iraqi-Iranian war. Surur ibn Muhammad, chief of the president's office; Ahmad Khalifah al-Suwaydi, the president's representative; Rashid 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs; and Ribhi 'Awad, PLO representative in the UAE, attended the meeting. [Text] [GF071336 Dubayy Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 7 Apr 81]

100-100000- In its 6 April 1981 meeting, the IAF cabinet approved the agreement with the Arab Engineering Investment Company that was signed last month by IAF and Minister of War. Said al-Nasr and IAF's Secretary General in 'Al-Jalibah. The company is one of several coming from IAF's and is being shared by all national oil companies in the IAF's states. (CROSS) See IAF's Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 (07 6 Apr 81)

011 010000- The first monthly report issued by the Central Bank has revealed that the IAF's oil revenues increased from \$17.5 billion in 1979 to \$18.5 billion in 1980, despite the fact that oil exports decreased from 1.82 million barrels per day in 1979 to 1.71 million barrels per day in 1980. (CROSS) See IAF's Domestic Service in Arabic 8 Apr 81 p 71

100-100000

YEMENI CITIZEN'S ASPIRATIONS, PROBLEMS DISCUSSED

Kuwait AL-SAYASAH in Arabic 13 Jan 81 p 17

[Article by Fathi Sharifi: "Is Yemeni Citizen Still Living Under Burdens of Isolation and Illiteracy; Dreams and Concerns of Yemeni Citizen; 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Maqalili: Yemen Wants to Overcome Its Situation But Isolation Complex Still Pursuing Him; Algerian Model Is Closest to Yemeni Citizen's Heart; With Qat, Yemeni Segregitates His Dreams and His Hostilities; 'Abd-al-Mahdhab Jahharli: Satisfying Historical Deprivation Is Most Evident Phenomenon in Yemeni's Life; Yemeni Citizen Has Consumed in 4 Years Wood and Construction Materials Equaling His Consumption in 100 Years; Yemeni Citizen now Seeks State Protection for His Property Whereas He Used to Be Afraid of Dealing With State; Yemeni Resorts to Emigration as Means of Opposition and Doesn't Believe in Strikes; Government Official: We Have Problem of Modernization and of Unavailability of Employee Who Can Deal With Banking and Investment Problems"]

[Foot] San'a'-While living amidst this stunning deluge of reported and unexpected events and changes engulfing us and while watching the intensifying conflicts and differences between Arab and international currents and forces, it may be interesting and necessary to move a little closer to the life of this Arab citizen who lives at bottom [tip] of the Arabian Peninsula--in Yemen--to learn his concerns and interests, to get in touch with his fears and dreams and to watch his aspiration and his suffering.

How does this simple citizen, with all the burdens of isolation, illiteracy and backwardness he shoulders, view the struggling world around him?

Does he really experience his nation's issues and feel the tempo of the age or is he preoccupied with his living problems and with his daily qat sessions?

In more than one dialogue session with citizens, intellectuals and men who live the life of the rocky mountains and of the true Arab reality, we have gathered an untouched picture of this land's man and of what he bears in his mind, heart and feelings.

Dr 'Abd-al-'Aziz Maqalili, a professor at the San'a' University School of Arts, says that the Yemeni citizen is concerned primarily with overcoming his situation. He views all the events, conflicts and developments around him, be they Arab or

international, from the angle of their impact on his situation and their effect on him and the angle of whether these events will divert his attention from his fundamental task or will make him more responsible and sturdier.

It is also the opinion of Dr Muqalib that the dangers engulfing the Arabian Peninsula and the area worry the Yemeni citizen and intensify his concerns. Though he is a simple man who has been doomed by circumstances to backwardness and deprivation for longer than is necessary, the Yemeni citizen is aware of all that is going on around him and remains grateful for whoever extends to him a helping hand, and it is not important whether the aid is financial or just the act of leaving him alone to proceed by trial and error without the intervention of others.

Dr Muqalib, who is also in charge of managing the Yemeni Studies and Research Center, adds that the previous period of isolation had a strong impact on developing the present Yemeni psyche. Since 1962 revolution, the Yemeni citizen has been trying to break away from the control of this historical factor and to disperse the idea of isolation. But very often, the Yemeni citizen may put this factor to use by withdrawing to develop, build and bolster his intrinsic ability. He considers the Algerian model, despite the mistakes committed within it, the closest Islamic Arab model to the Yemeni citizen's heart and mind.

It is the opinion of Dr 'Abd-al-'Aziz Muqalib that nature has put Yemen at the bottom (tip) of the Arab world, thus excluding it from true participation in this world's riches, strength and capabilities and thus intensifying Yemen's isolation and backwardness. The Yemeni citizen cannot overcome his geographic fortunes but he can overcome his private negative aspects and can reassess his interests by reviewing history.

Dr Muqalib believes that the Yemeni citizen's continued use of qat is one of the serious negative aspects in his life and says that qat makes the Yemeni regurgitate his dreams, his hostilities and his friendships 5 hours a day.

Muhammad 'Abd-al-Wahhab Jabhari, an educated and prominent political personality in the Yemeni society, says that deprivation is one of the most significant phenomena reflecting their shadows on the Yemeni citizen's life and governing his actions and his way of life at present and for a long time to come.

'Abd-al-Wahhab Jabhari notes that the pattern of Yemeni life has changed and developed in a stunning manner as a result of this historical deprivation which the Yemeni citizen experienced and under which he lived for a long time insofar as his food, housing, education and everything else is concerned. In the past 4 years, we have consumed wood and construction materials equal to what we had previously consumed in 100 years. Fuel consumption rose from 5,000 tons annually before the revolution to 850,000 tons annually 19 years after the revolution.

Rents have risen fifty-fold what they were before the revolution. There were no rented houses and apartments and there wasn't a single family which didn't have its separate house whereas there are now in Sana'a alone 7,000 families that don't own private houses.

In his comparative analysis of the Yemeni citizen's life before the revolution and at present, Jabbari adds: The highest figure paid (before the revolution) in civil servant and troop wages was 600,000 riyals whereas these wages have now reached 1.6 billion riyals. Moreover, there are now private car owners. There are in Yemen nearly one million private cars, i.e., one car per 6 persons, whereas in the days of the Imam there was a small number of cars owned by the Imam and his sons. Even ministers and top level state officials did not have cars.

Therefore, the Yemeni citizen is trying, Jabbari says, to make up now for the luxuries and comforts of life that he had missed. Large numbers of citizens have turned from farmers who used to plow the land with their hands into owners of modern farming equipment. When the revolution broke out, there were only 35 tractors, all of them in the Imam's farms, and 70 water pumps whereas there are now 4,000 tractors and 9,000 pumps owned by ordinary citizens, naturally. Thus, the citizens are now going through the phase of making up for their deprivation. With this phenomenon, the consumption patterns are increasing. These patterns may later turn toward the phase of saving and of participation in the economic development. This is one of the problems we are experiencing at present.

The citizen's habits are now changing gradually, says 'Abd-al-Wahhab Jabbari, and the citizen is turning from an individual who has been afraid of dealing with the government and who has been rejecting government intervention in his affairs and property into a citizen who owns land, a house and a car and who looks for the presence of the state to protect him and to safeguard his property. In the past, the citizen's relationship with the state was no more than the state's collection of taxes. All this change will help to a large degree in creating a firmer relationship between the citizen and the state and in underlining the collective responsibility of the citizens.

It is also the opinion of 'Abd-al-Wahhab Jabbari that the Yemeni citizen is still looking for secure work and livelihood and he still hopes and thinks that his country's land will yield mineral resources and oil. Despite this, the Yemeni citizen doesn't like the idea of strikes to protest any decision taken by the government to raise commodity prices or rents but rather prefers emigration and working abroad as his special way of expressing his opposition. This is why the state is now suffering from the problem of emigration and why it tries to induce the citizen to stay by raising wages which have now reached the point where the average wages of the Yemeni worker have amounted to 3,000 riyals or nearly 300 pounds sterling [monthly].

The most distinctive feature of the Yemeni citizen's life, according to 'Abd-al-Wahhab Jabbari, is that he likes the system of cooperatives in solving his problems, his family's, his village and his tribe's problems and in dealing with the state and the funds that the states allocate. If his village needs to have a road opened or a house built, it first collects money from its citizens before asking to governate or the district to allocate any sums for any project. This is why cooperatives in Yemen are considered the strongest and richest popular organizations. These cooperatives reflect the spirit of participation and of independence from the state. This is why Yemen is the best school for cooperatives in the world. On its part, the state encourages this tendency because it saves itself the burdens of large commitments.

It is the opinion of Jabbari that the mountainous terrain has made the Yemeni citizen favor a balanced and moderate national policy. This citizen views the international conflicts from a totally neutral and impartial angle. He clings to his entity and to preserving his independence and is loath to capitulate due to need because he is accustomed to hard and austere life. However, all this has not prevented him from living in the Arab atmosphere and from feeling the concerns and problems of the Arab homeland.

'Abd-al-Wahhab Jabbari views the phenomenon of bearing arms and of collecting them in homes as a phenomenon that is as ancient as history and sees nothing in it to arouse worry or concern. He says that to the tribal citizen, a weapon takes priority over food. It is very disgraceful for a citizen not to carry a weapon. Therefore, this phenomenon poses no threat to stability or security, especially among the tribes. But in the cities, there is a decree banning the carrying of firearms which are carried here only by the state soldiers. This decree is enforced and there is no objection to it.

Many of the intellectuals and politicians with whom I have talked admit that one of the existing problems is the problem of modernization in the state departments and in the various establishments and organizations. This problem has begun to make its weight felt by the administration and by the citizen as a result of the open-door policy and of the expanding cooperation with international and Arab organizations.

The Yemeni citizen views this inflow of foreign and Arab experts with their various fields of specialization with satisfaction coupled with perplexity and caution. The source of the perplexity is the fact that the citizen cannot deal with them and understand their purpose. The caution and suspicion toward whatever is foreign perhaps reflect one of the characteristics of the Yemeni citizen's personality which has been affected by the historical isolation. But ultimately, the Yemeni citizen views the foreigner as a source of more money which opens the opportunity for more spheres of livelihood and for monetary liquidity.

If the problem of some Arab and foreign organizations and investment companies in Yemen lies in the fact that the simple Yemeni employee cannot deal with some of the complex investment accounts and symbols, then this problem is simultaneously shared by the government. A prominent official has told me that the solution to this problem comes with patience and time. When I told him that this problem may become easy if the government begins training programs for this class of employees who are supposed to deal with financiers, banks and investment and insurance companies, this official said: We have taken all this into our account. But training needs time also.

If this problem is connected in one way or another with the question of education and with the attention devoted to it, then the figures are encouraging and underline the increasing interest in education, whether on the part of the Yemeni citizen who encourages his children to obtain an education, regardless of the circumstances, or on the part of the state which has helped the student numbers rise from 15,000 in 1962 to 500,000 students [at present] in schools and universities. Moreover, the number of those sent abroad on educational scholarships has reached 3,000 students.

This seems to be a reasonable percentage, considering the state's capabilities and budget.

In any case, education in Yemen has become something over which tribes and simple families compete. Society's opening up to foreign cultures has also become one of the prominent and influential features of the Yemeni citizen at present. No ordinary Yemeni household at present seems to be lacking a television set and a video set which the family uses to show cultural and educational films to its children. The companies which import video films from abroad are doing a brisk business.

The Yemeni citizen, be he a small employee, a merchant or a farmer, has now developed interests and problems that are different in nature and in responsibility [sic] from the interests of the citizen 15 years ago.

If you ask any citizen in Yemen: Which do you prefer, rain or water? He would answer succinctly: Rain. This is because with rain come agriculture and fertility, and we don't want more. If you ask him: What are your country's most important problems? The citizen would answer: Drought, emigration and qat.

They say that the rains are meager and that rain doesn't fall more than 3 weeks a year under the best circumstances, one week in summer and 2 weeks in the fall. Despite this small rainfall, most of it flows to the sea through the mountains and the valleys. Only 30 percent of the rainfall is exploited due to the lack of dams that prevent the flow into the sea.

They also say that Yemen had 370 dams in the days of the kingdoms of Saba' and Himyar, the most famous being the Ma'rib dam. But now there aren't enough dams. The farmers assert that if the rainwater, despite its meagerness, were preserved Yemen would be able to cultivate 75 percent of its cultivable lands.

Due to the small area of the cultivated lands, the government, they say, imports everything whereas Yemen used to export wheat, grapes and coffee to the Gulf and Europe.

When you ask the farmers and the citizens who work in the cooperatives about the most important crops, they say that even though the area cultivated is small, most of it is used for the cultivation of qat which has destroyed the cultivation of grapes, coffee and wheat of which only very little is produced, and only for the sake of memory and of the spectacle.

Qat has thus become one of the social and economic manifestations dominating the citizen's mind and pocket. Profits from qat crops have reached astronomical figures and the average daily qat purchases by the citizens have reached nearly 70 million riyals, meaning that the citizen pays at the average 200-400 riyals daily to enjoy chewing qat in the afternoon sessions or in the constant qat sessions with friends. Consequently, qat constitutes a heavy burden to the citizen and to the family because it consumes more than one-half its income.

Many citizens admit that they seek emigration to escape qat's domination of their lives in their country. They say that the main reason for the emigration of 2 million Yemeni citizens to other countries is qat because the citizen cannot find this qat outside his country.

They admit that the qat phenomenon represents the most serious negative aspect to the Yemeni citizen and society. But they cannot escape using it daily and they haven't yet found those who will reach out and solve this problem.

When I asked for a Yemeni university professor who has written several books on the phenomenon of qat in the Yemeni society and who has warned the Yemeni citizen against the continued use of qat, I found this professor chewing qat in an evening session with his friends, even though he seemed to be dealing with it cautiously!

When you ask the Yemenis in their meetings about the dominant force behind this profitable trade and this substance that kills time in the Yemeni citizen's life and makes him a constant prisoner of his dreams and his tragic and sadist memories, they say: They are the tribal chiefs who control its cultivation. All their lands are cultivated with qat. Through the vast profile that qat yields, these chiefs can confront any sincere call for reform demanding that the Yemeni citizen's life be liberated from this serious phenomenon.

The only voice that has risen warning and calling for limiting the use of qat to 2 days a week was the voice of Muhsin al-'Ayni, a former prime minister. But this voice has fallen in the face of the pressure of money, influence and control.

It seems that other circles have found in this kind of negative phenomena affecting the citizen a means to keep the Yemeni people living in their isolation and their ancient history, to keep them from approaching the modern age and to imprison them behind the walls of human life [sic].

Consequently, when we look at the Yemeni citizen's life closely, it becomes perplexing and interesting. While the world seems too small in the morning for the Yemeni citizen's imagination and his aspiration for education, culture, development and for making up for his long-lasting deprivation, we find him in the evening running away from the clamor and problems of life to kill his time in the qat sessions that cost him heavily and that take him away from the facts and the reality to worlds of dreams and fantasy.

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